

FAIRY TAIL

38

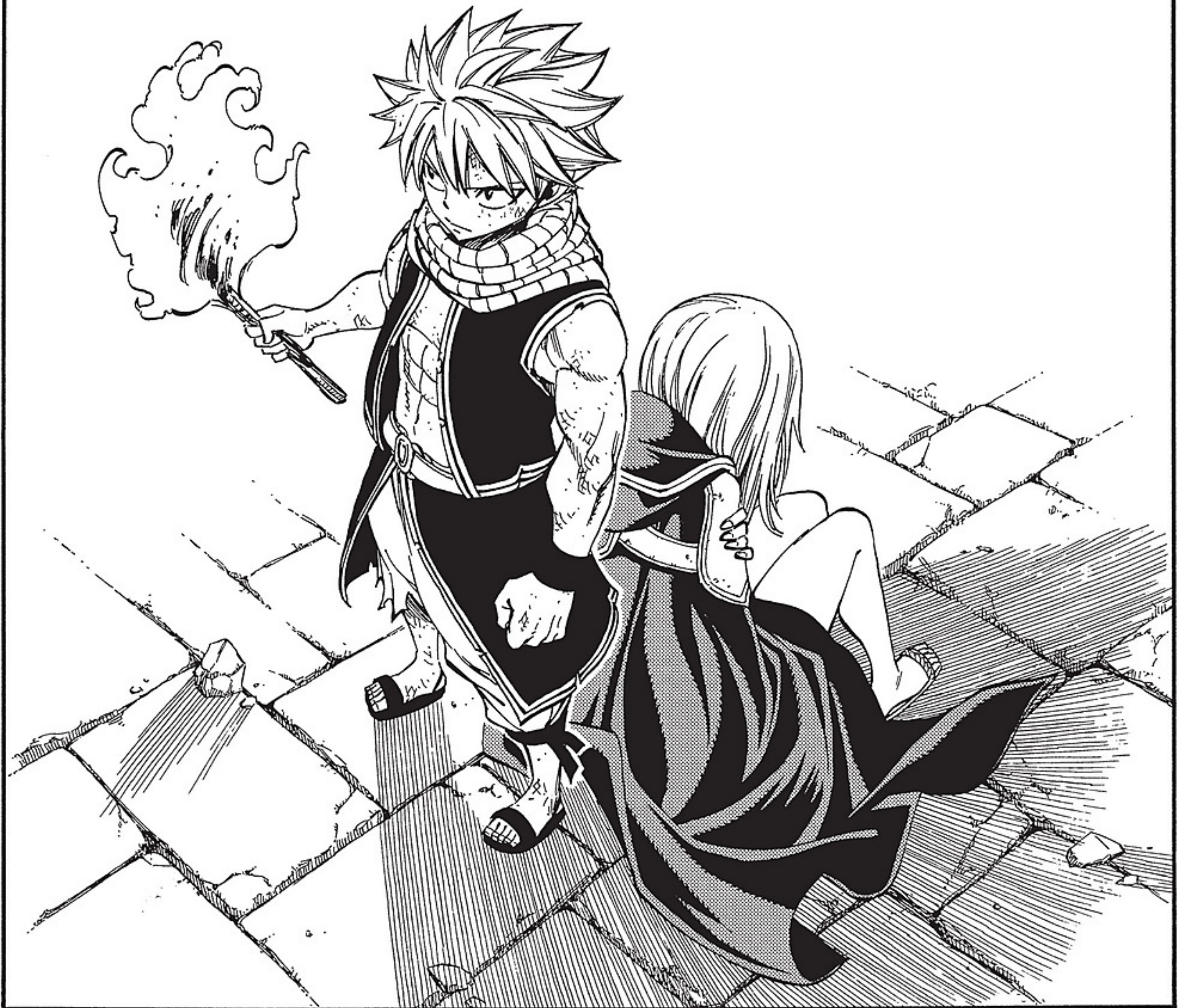


Hiro Mashima

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

38



HIRO MASHIMA



Chapter 318: Gajeel vs. Rogue 8 8 8 3

Chapter 319: White Knight 8 8 8 29

Chapter 320: Attacking Lightning 8 8 8 49

Chapter 321: Laxus vs. Jura 8 8 8 69

Chapter 322: Gloria 8 8 8 89

Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again 8 8 8 125

Chapter 324: One Who Would Close the Door 8 8 8 145

Chapter 325: Solidarity!!!! 8 8 8 165



Chapter 318: Gajeel vs. Rogue



 **FAIRYTAIL**



This way!!



That makes sense.

So you mapped out the underground routes, huh?



Even if I did nothing else, I wanted to avoid the future where you guys are captured by the Royal forces!



You really know these hallways.



I'm sure everybody's worried about us!

We have to get above ground quick and set off the signal!







...

Why'd they go off without a word...?

Yukino isn't here either!

What?!

Arcadios-san isn't here!!!



Right!

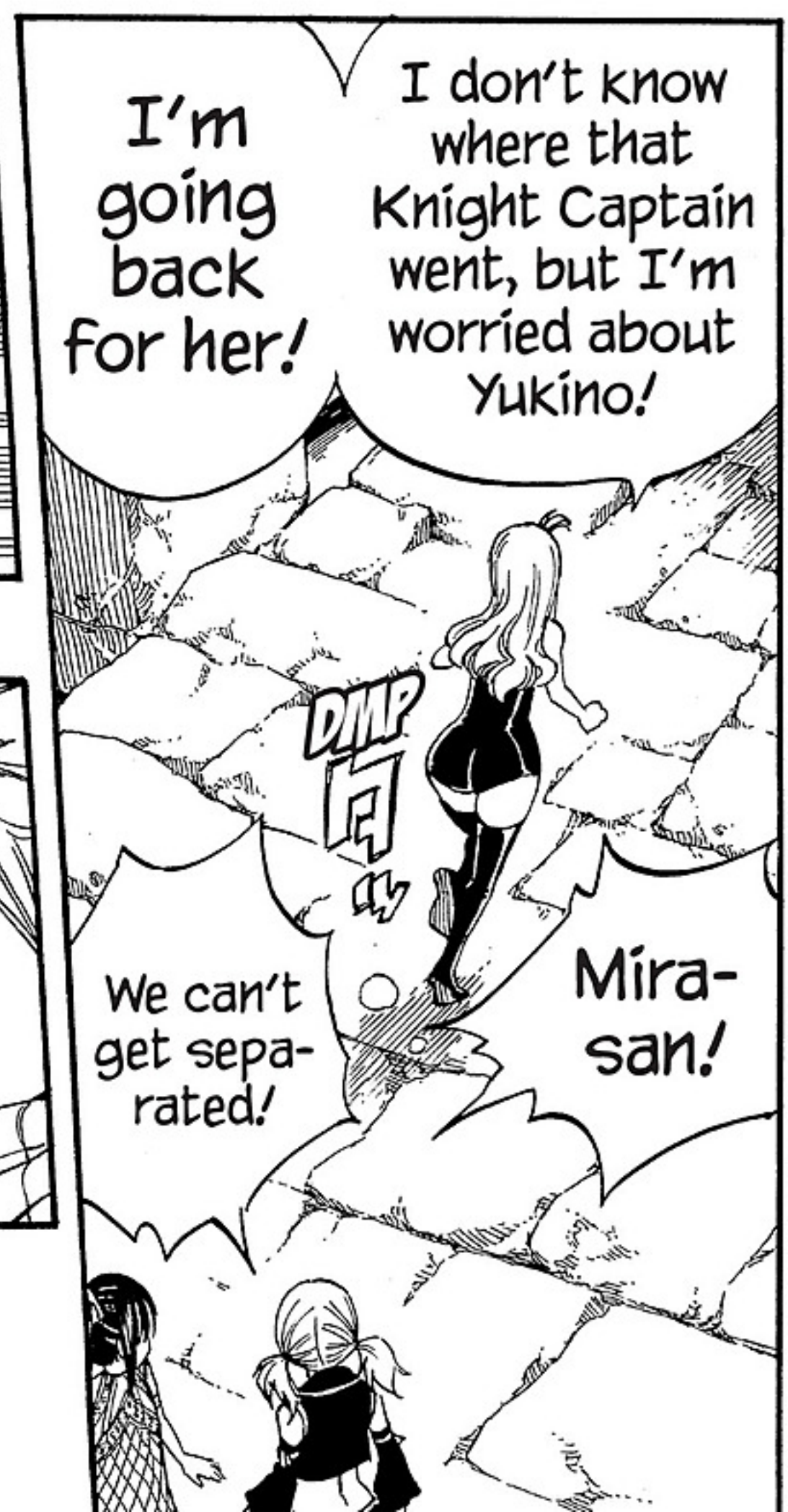
We'll take them here...



Take care, you guys...



We got this!!!

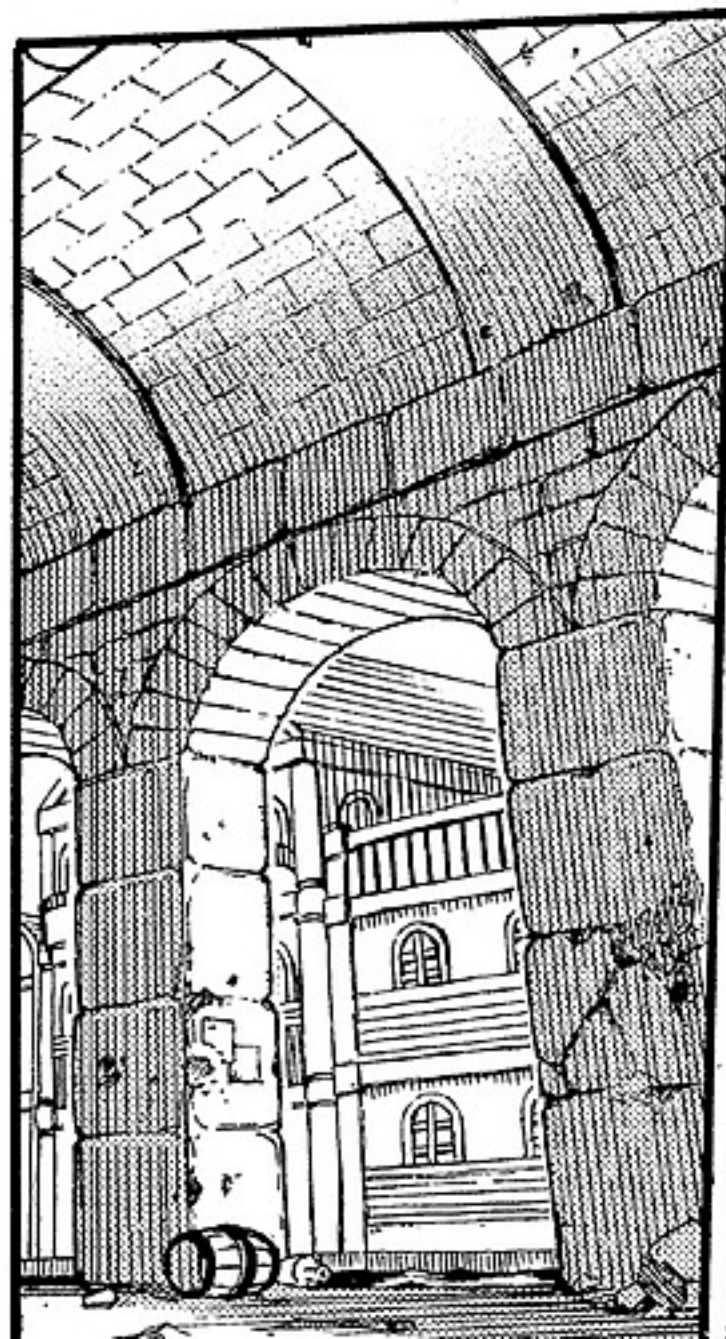


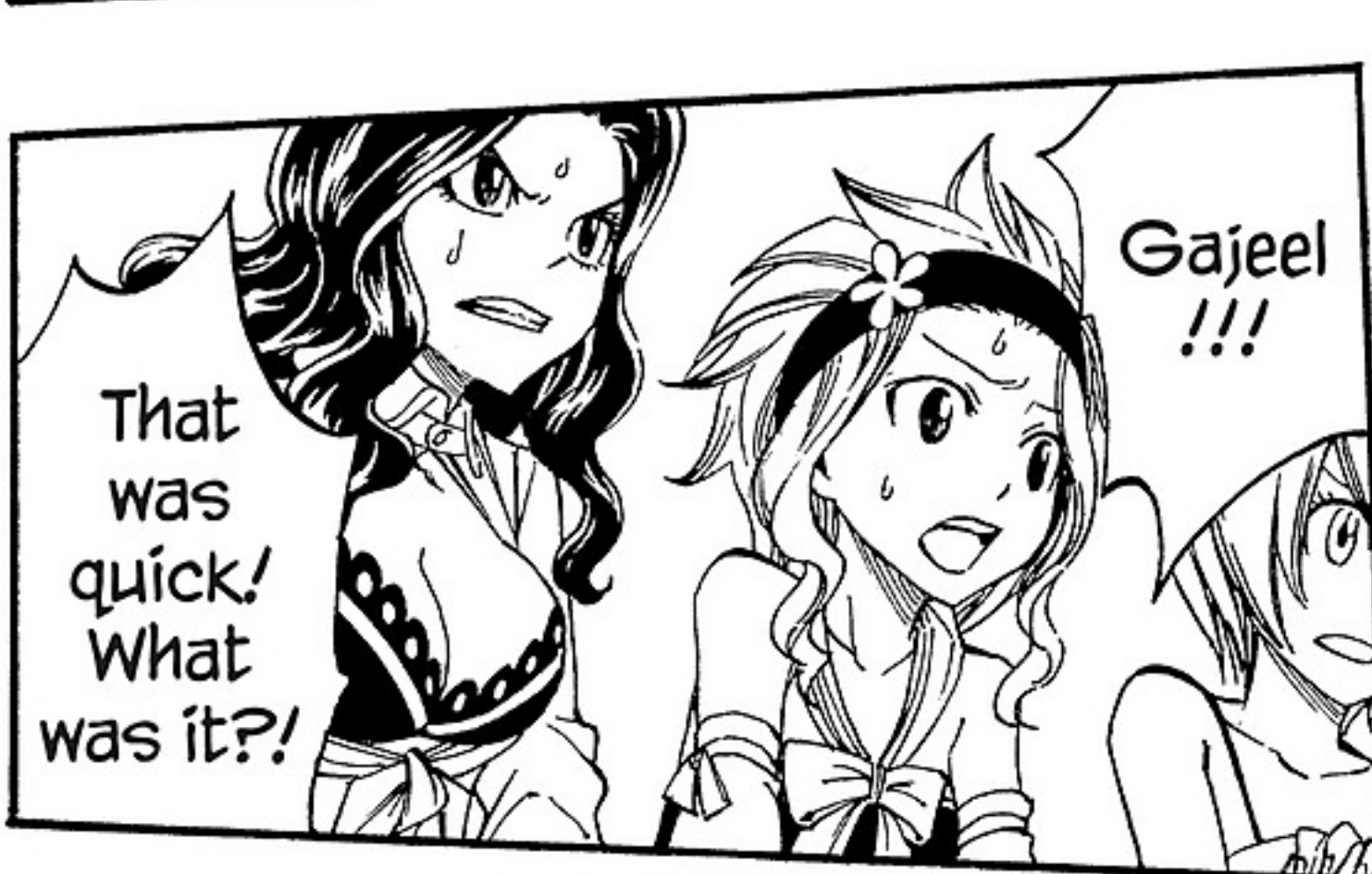
I'm going back for her!

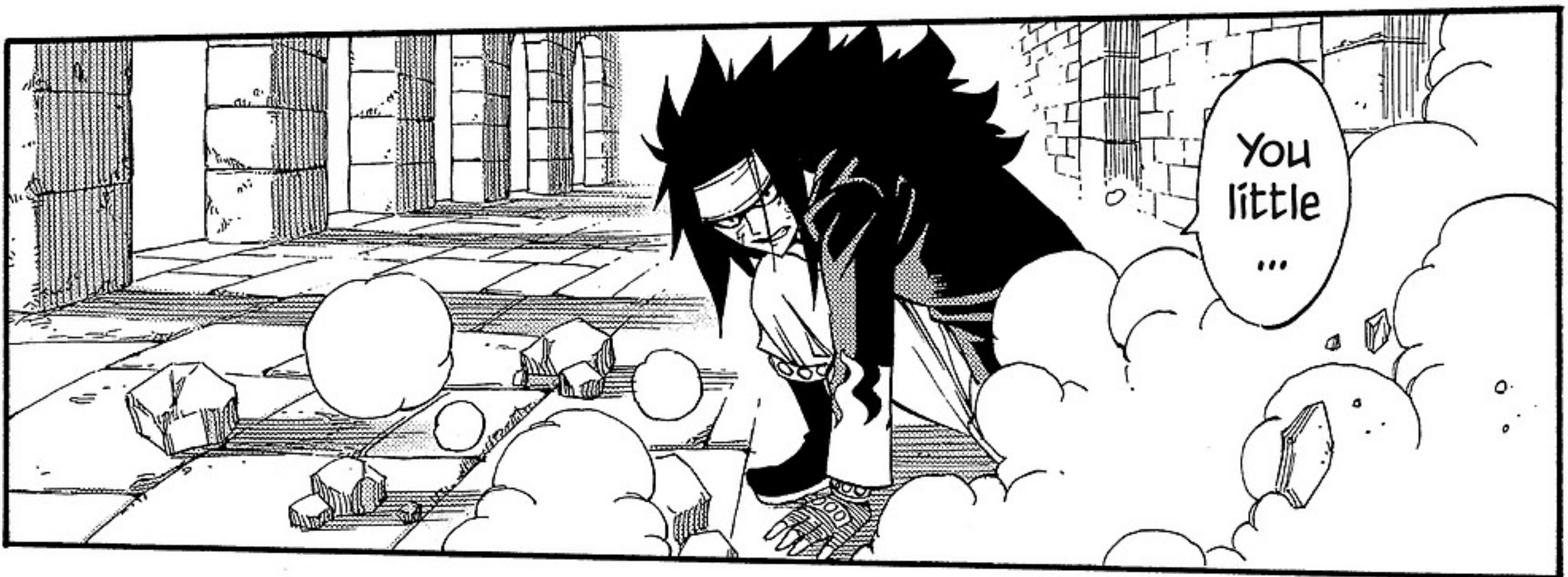
I don't know where that Knight Captain went, but I'm worried about Yukino!

We can't get separated!

Mira-san!







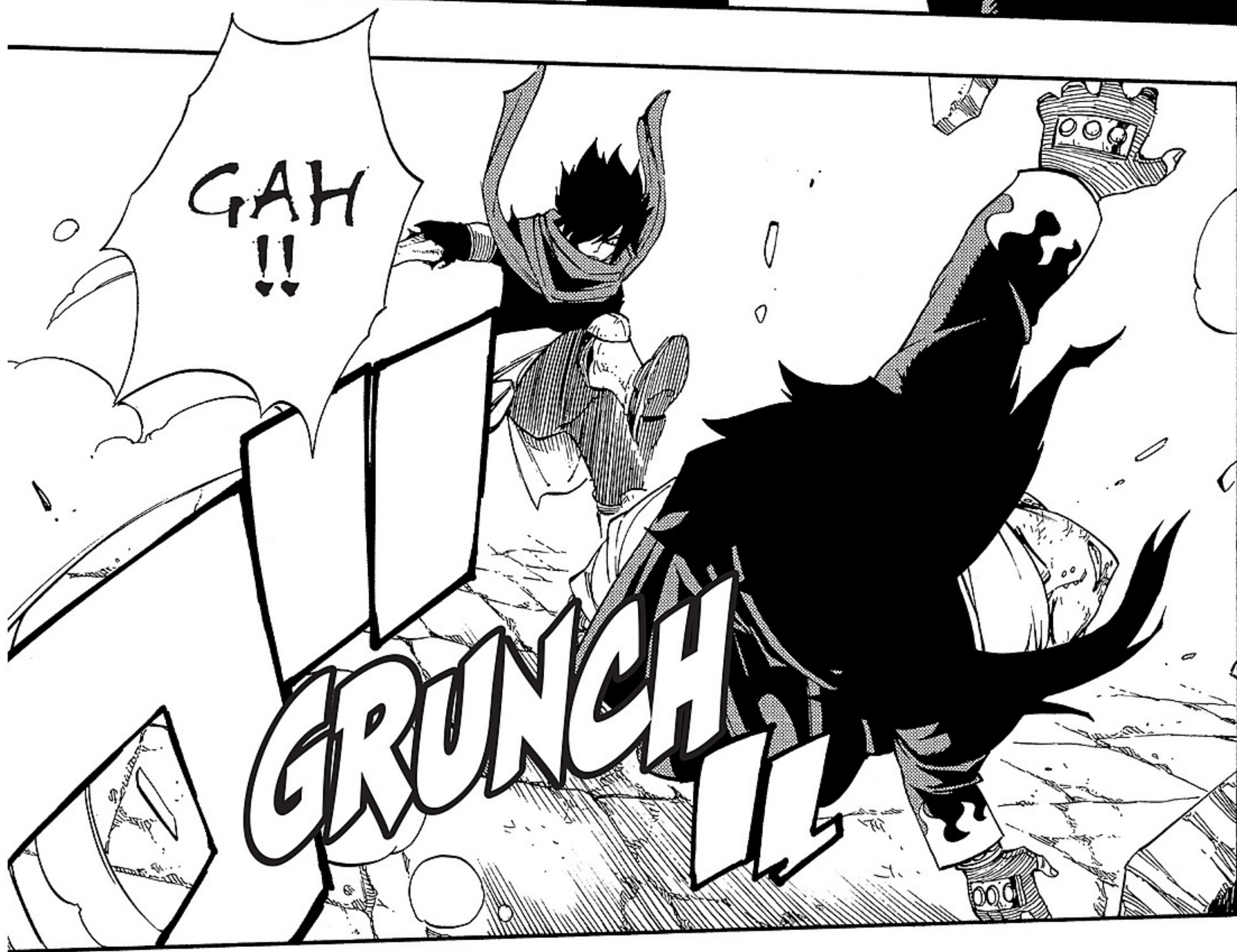
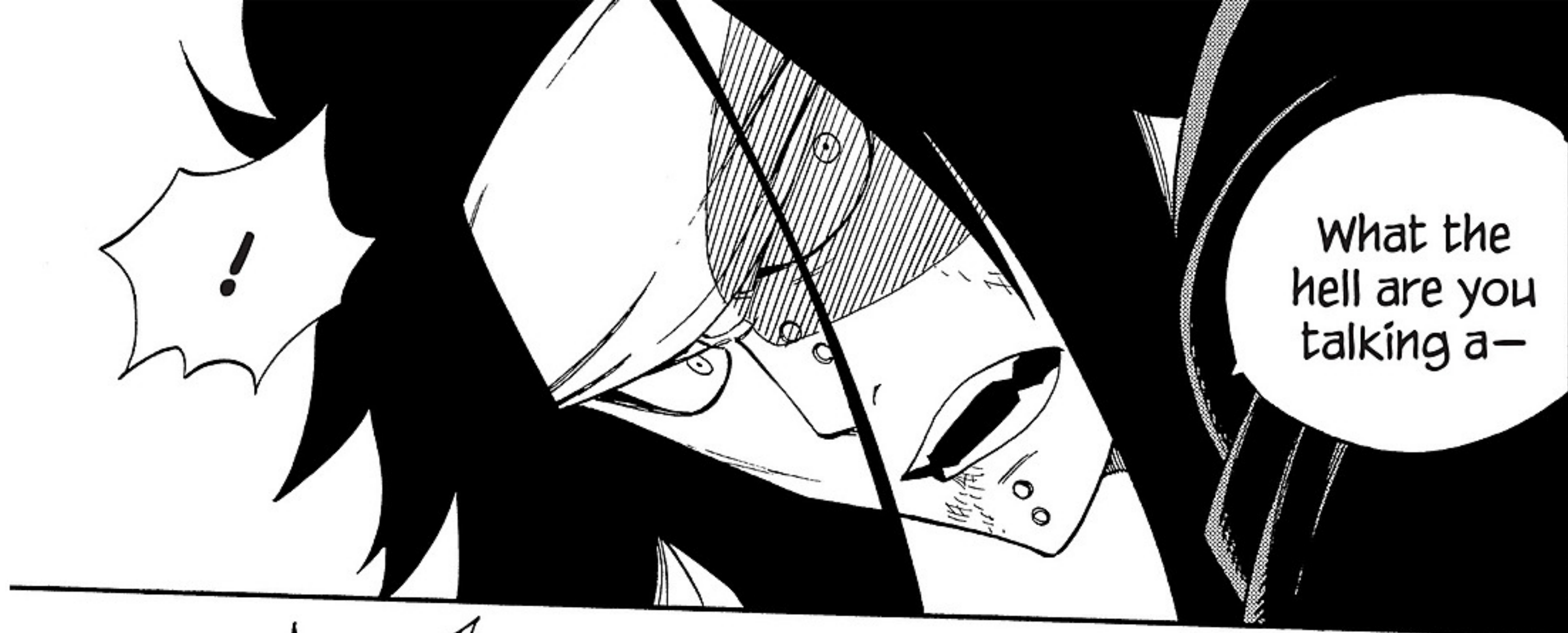


**I am
Shadow**

...

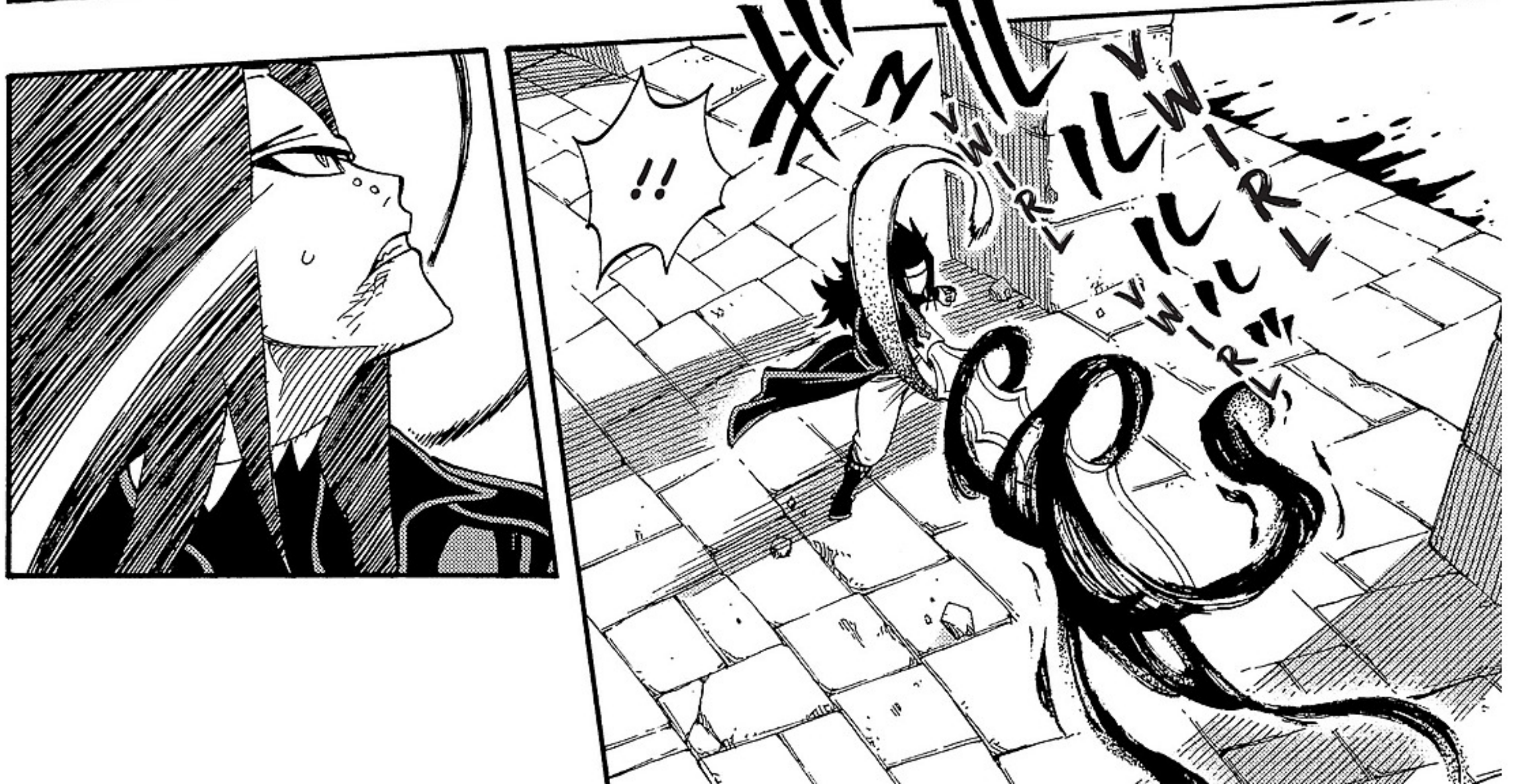
**The
shadow
that rules
over fate!**

RUMMMMMMMBLE



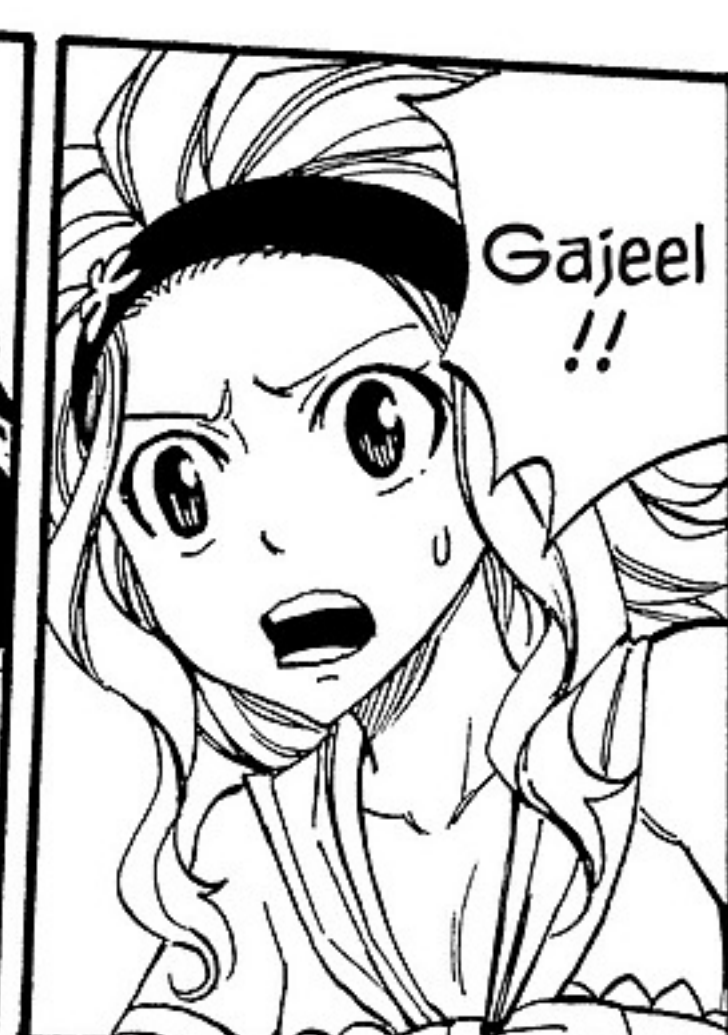


*Iron Dragon Sword

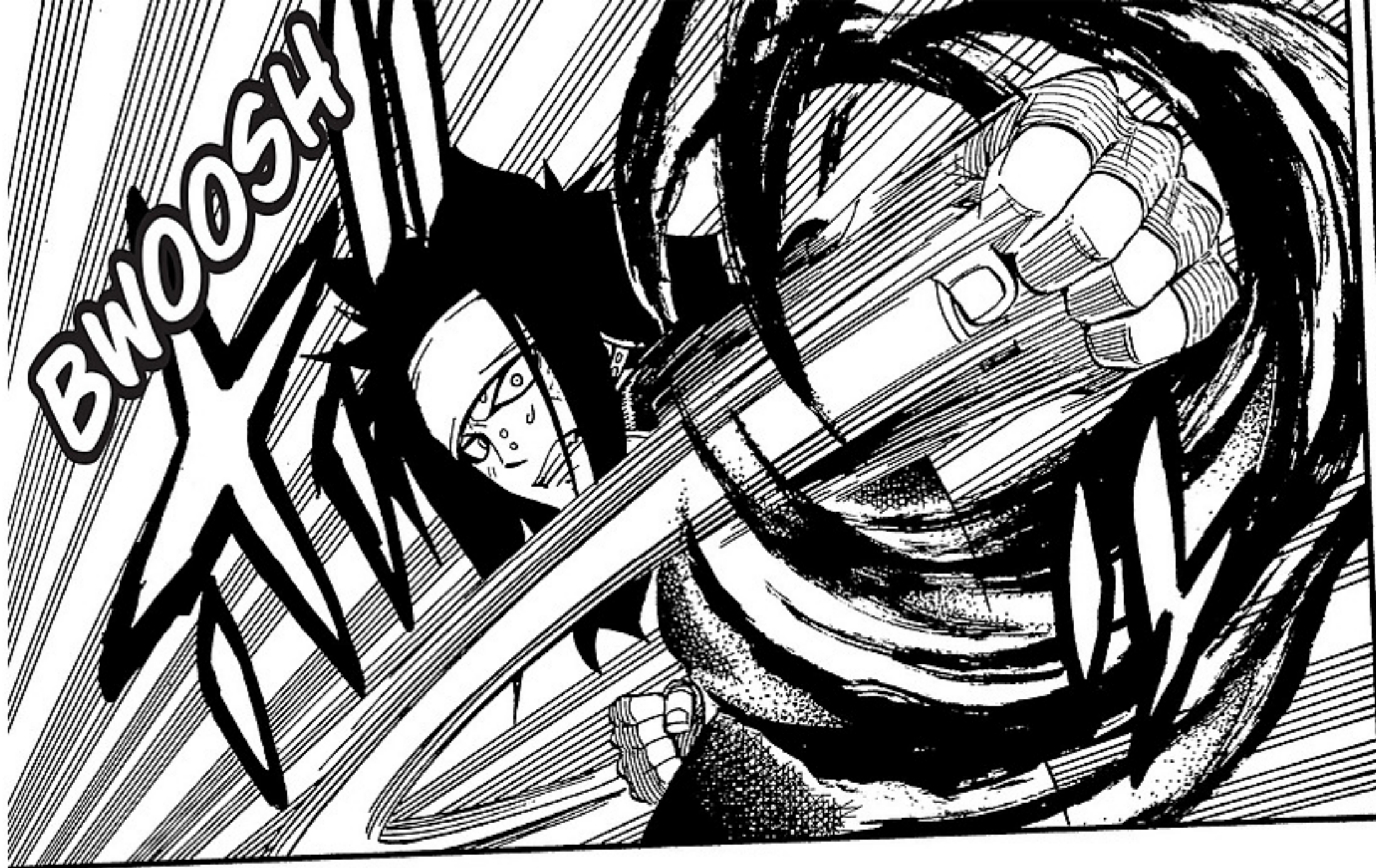




*Shadow Dragon's Waxwing Flash!







It seems something has possessed him.

What is that?

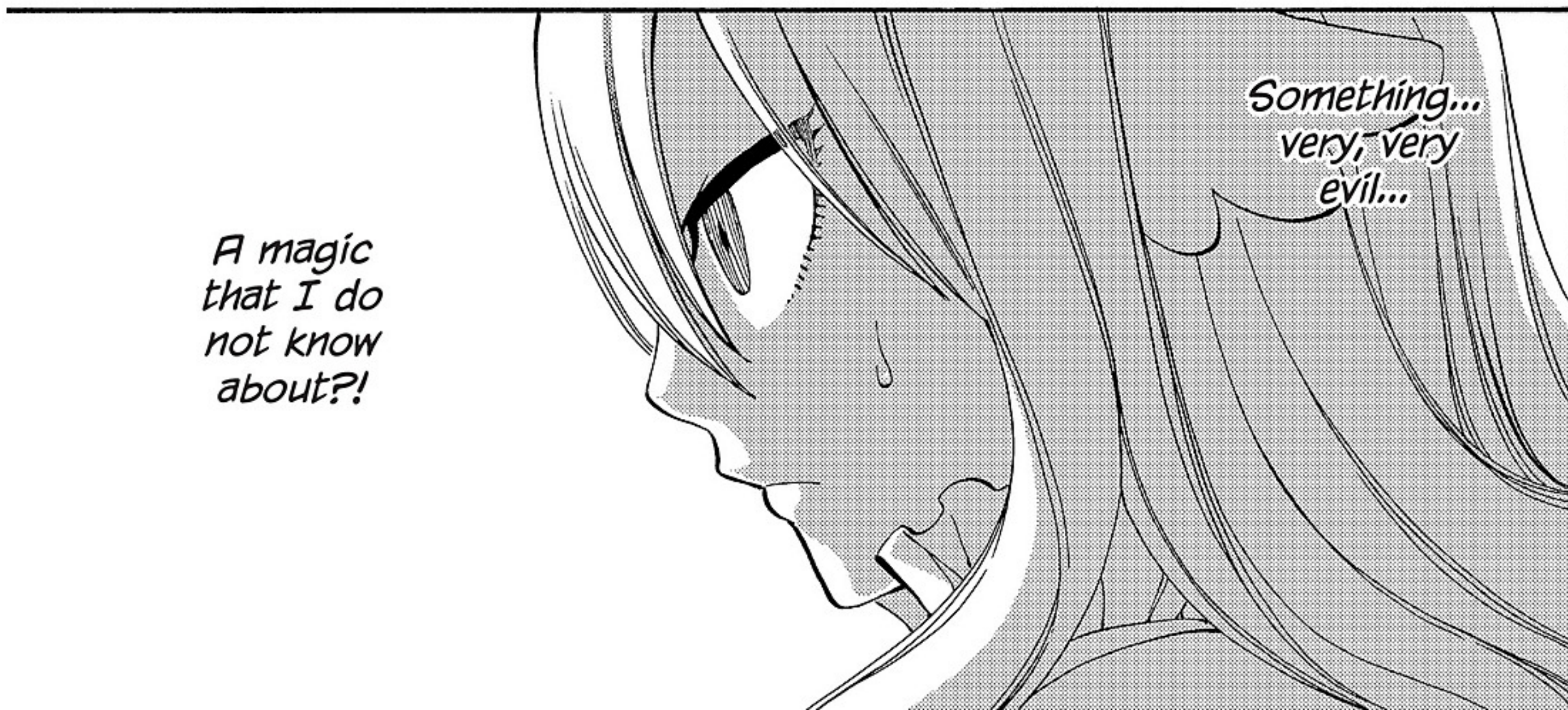


Ngah!!



UNGH!!

GRANCH

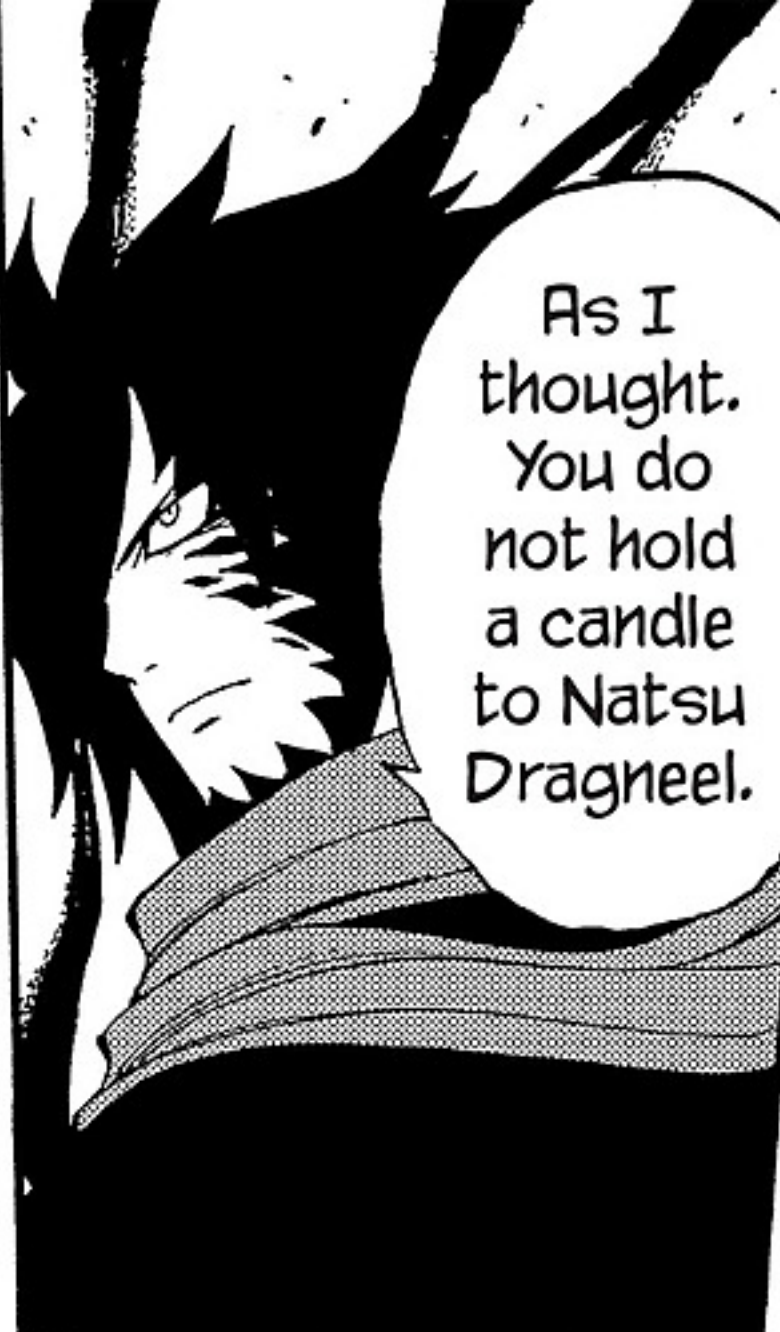


A magic that I do not know about?!

Something... very, very evil...



You creep ...



As I thought. You do not hold a candle to Natsu Dragneel.



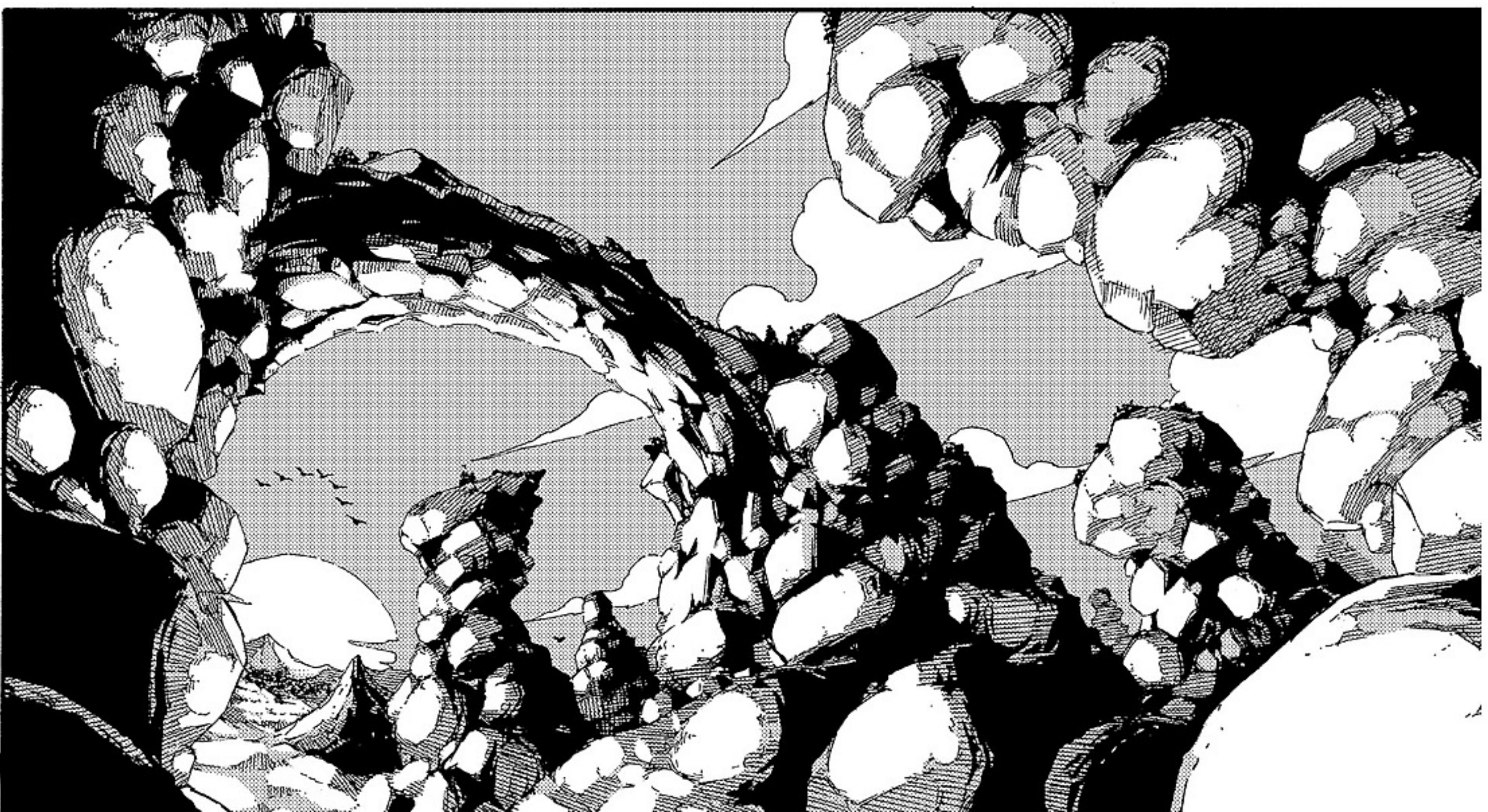
WOBBLE 70...

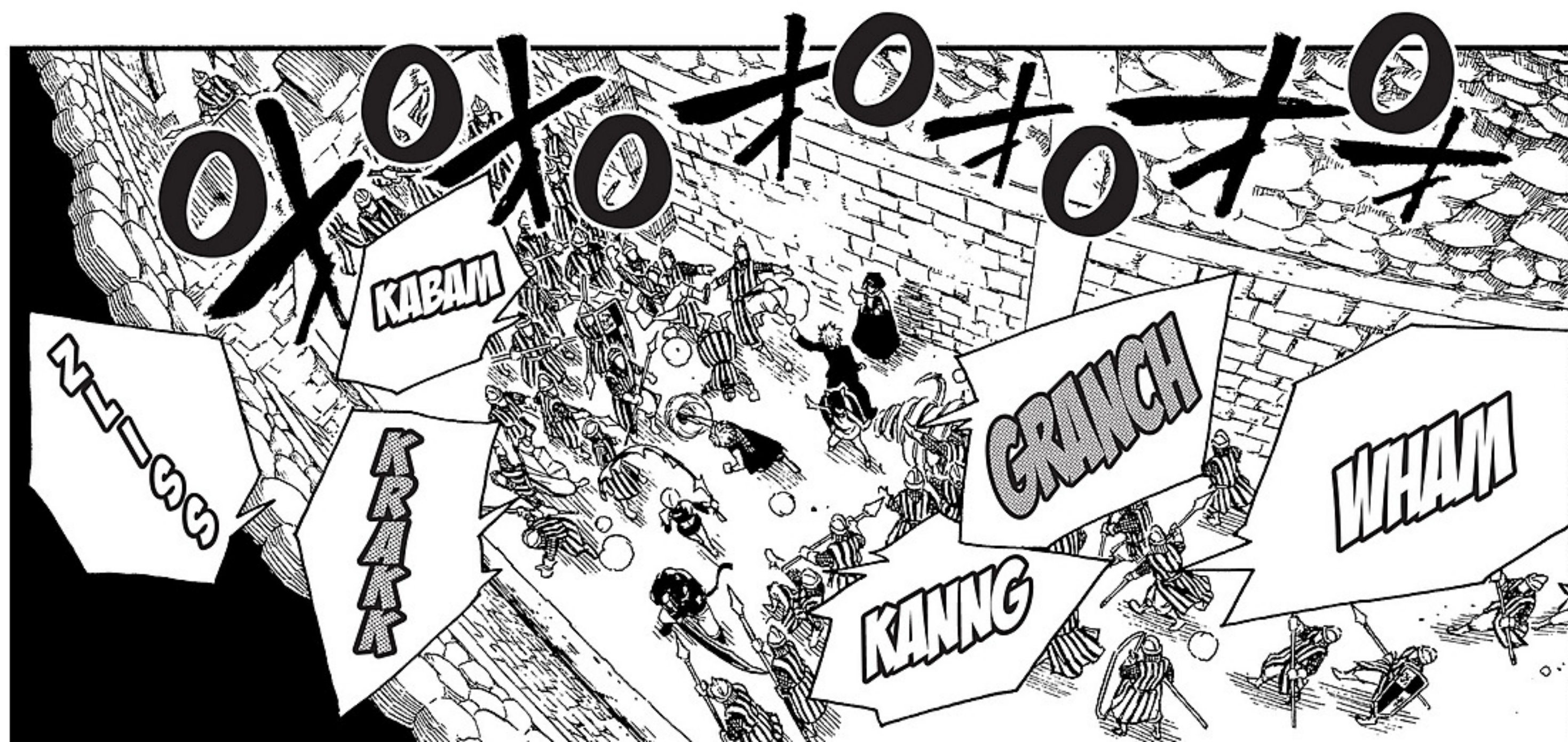
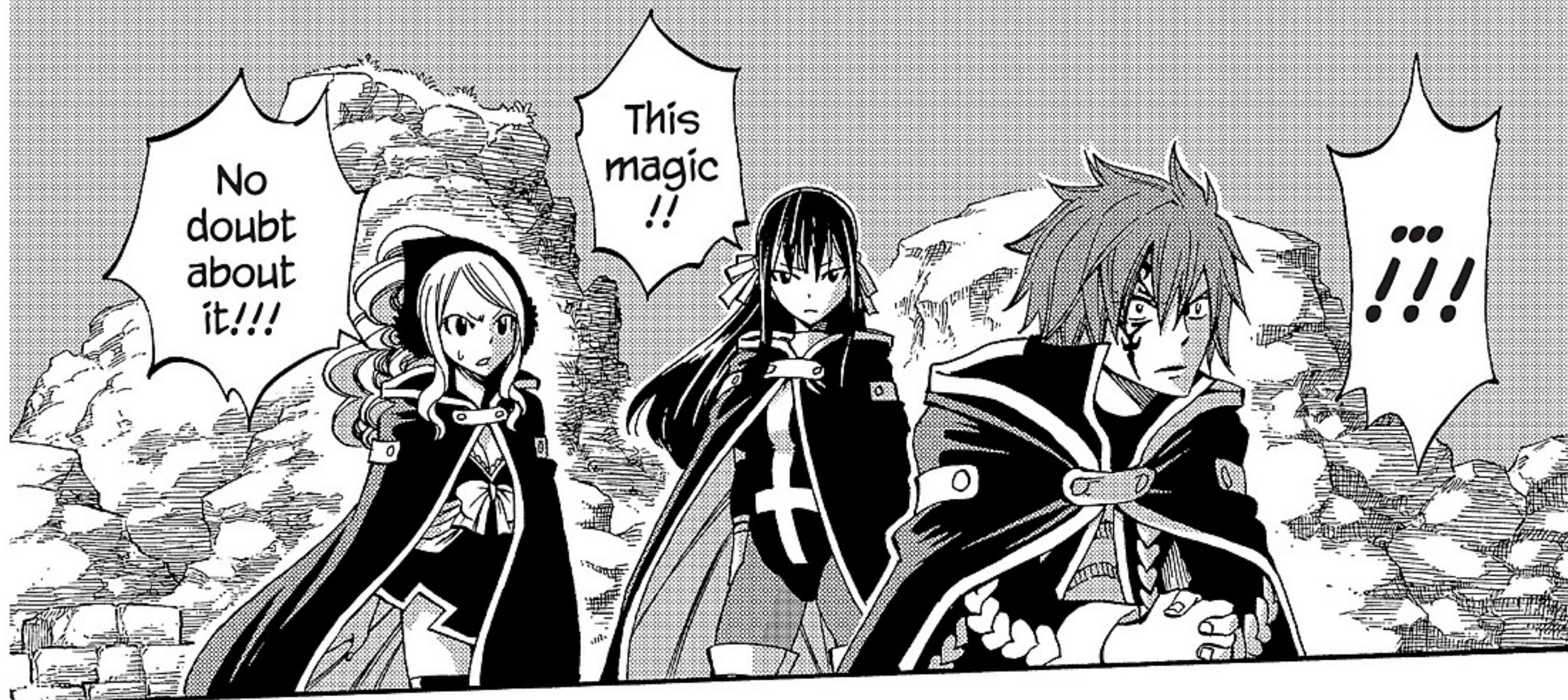
Urhn ...

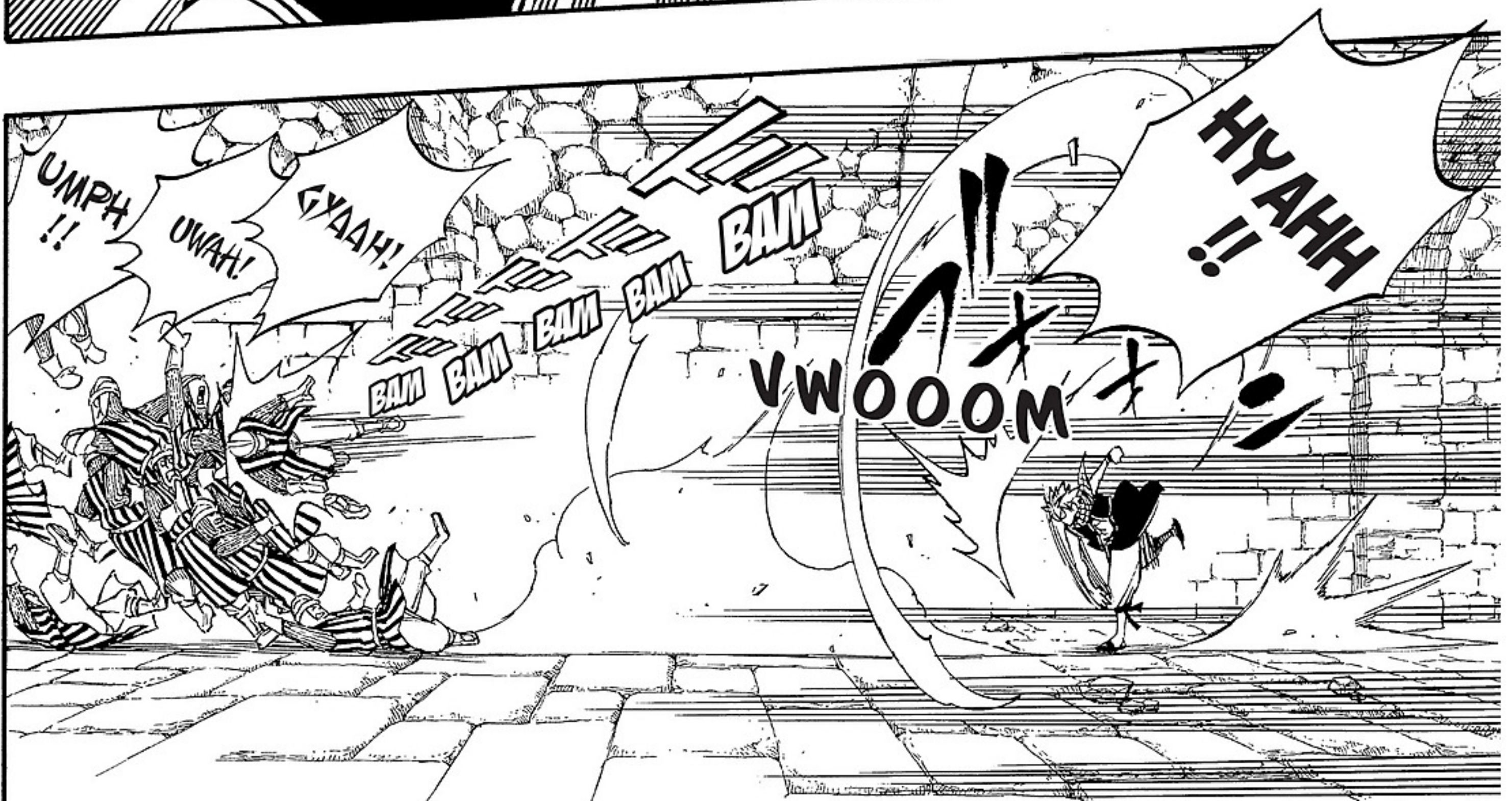
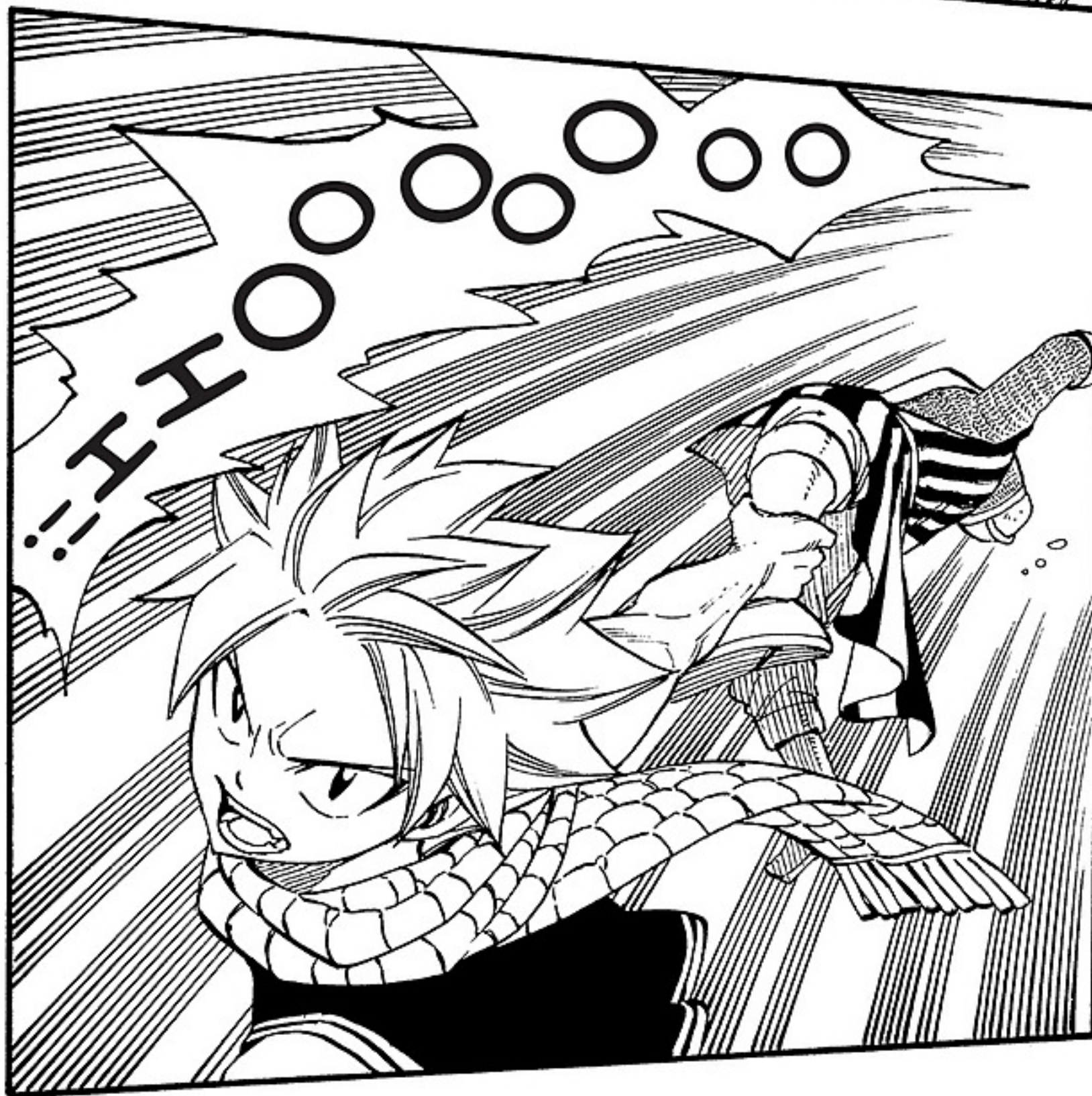
Urg ...

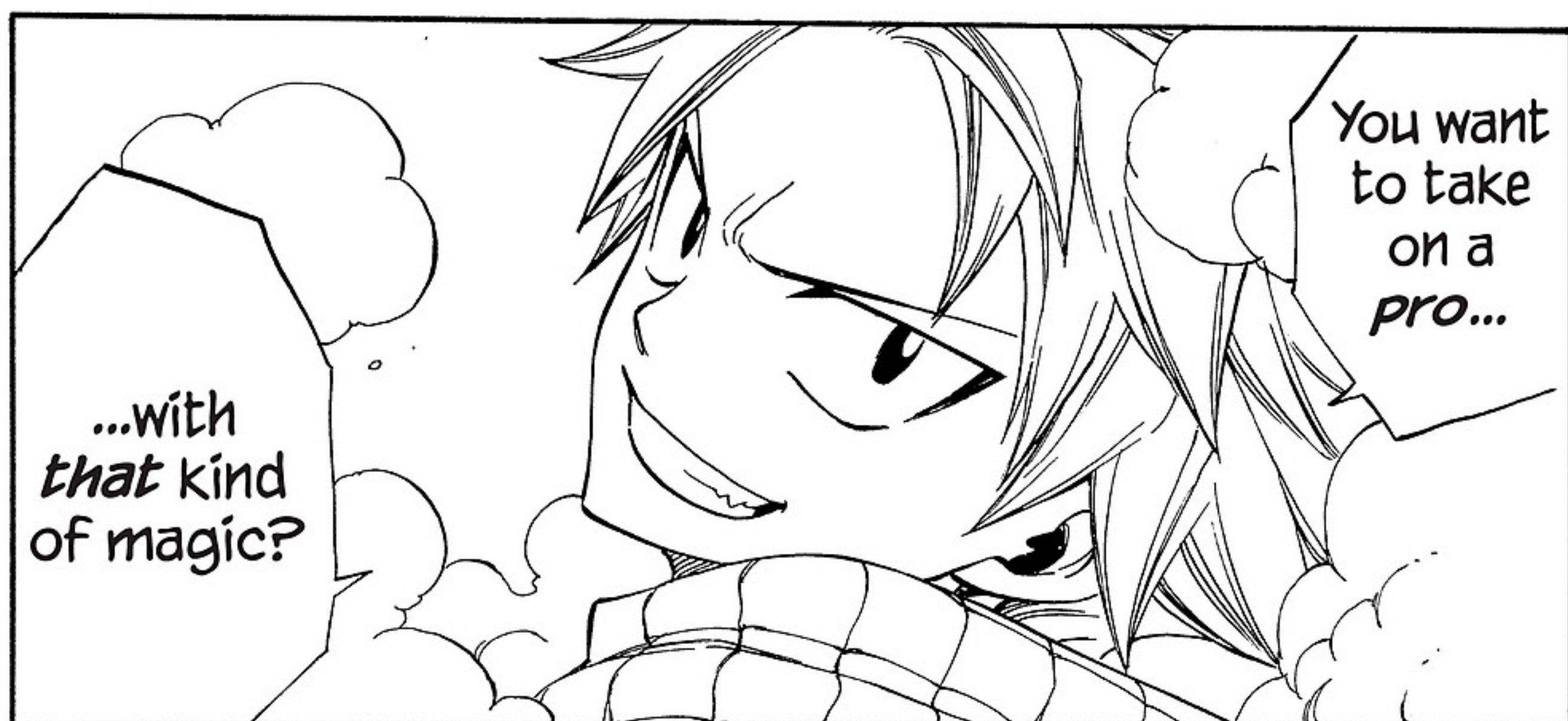


However, even Natsu Dragneel is not a match for me as I am now.

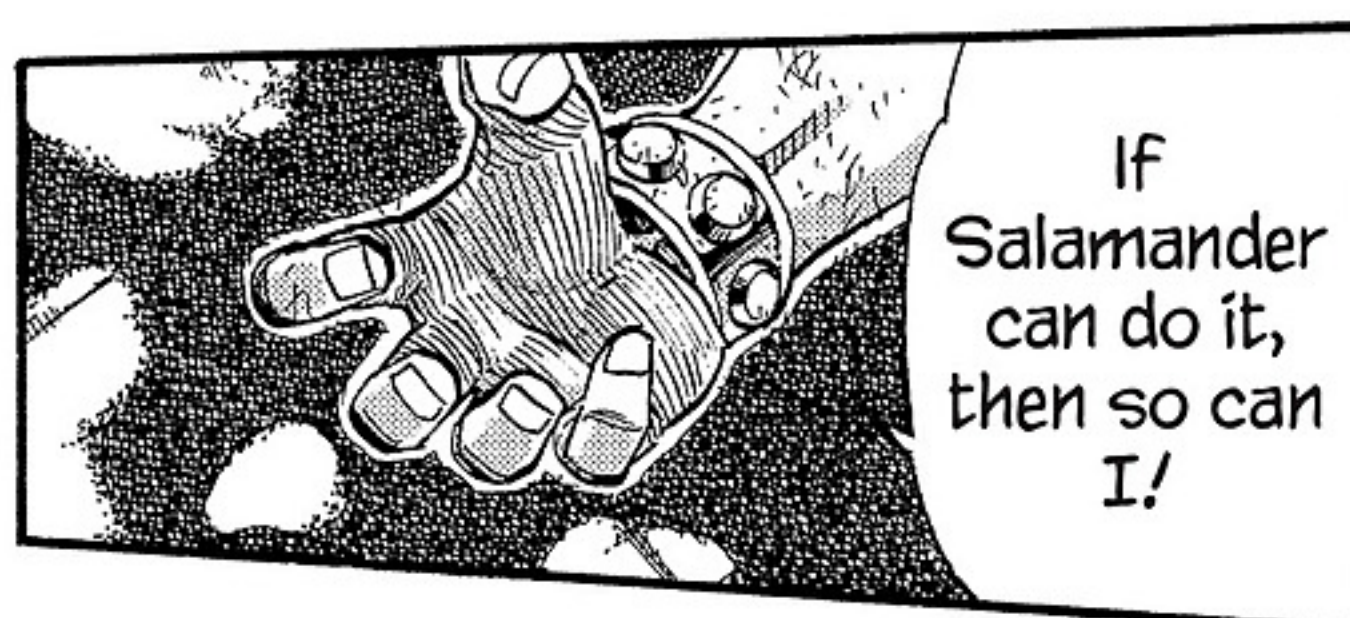
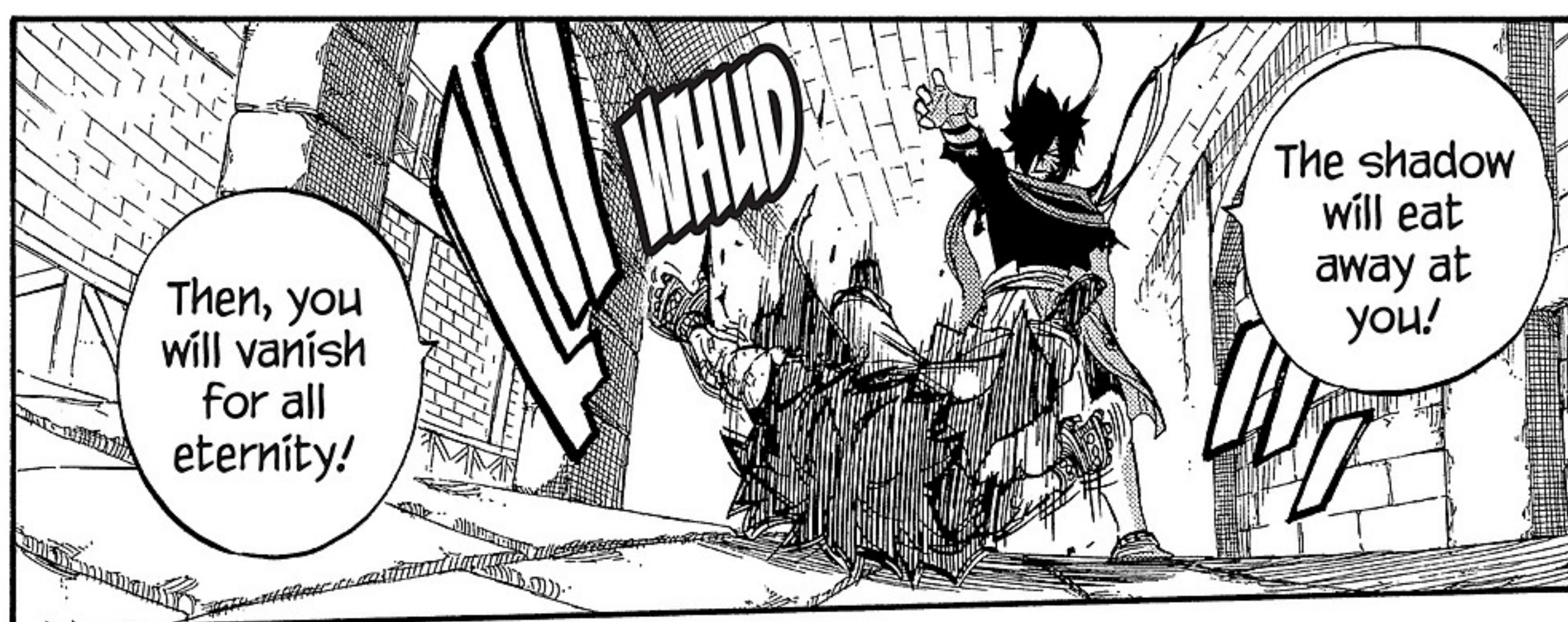
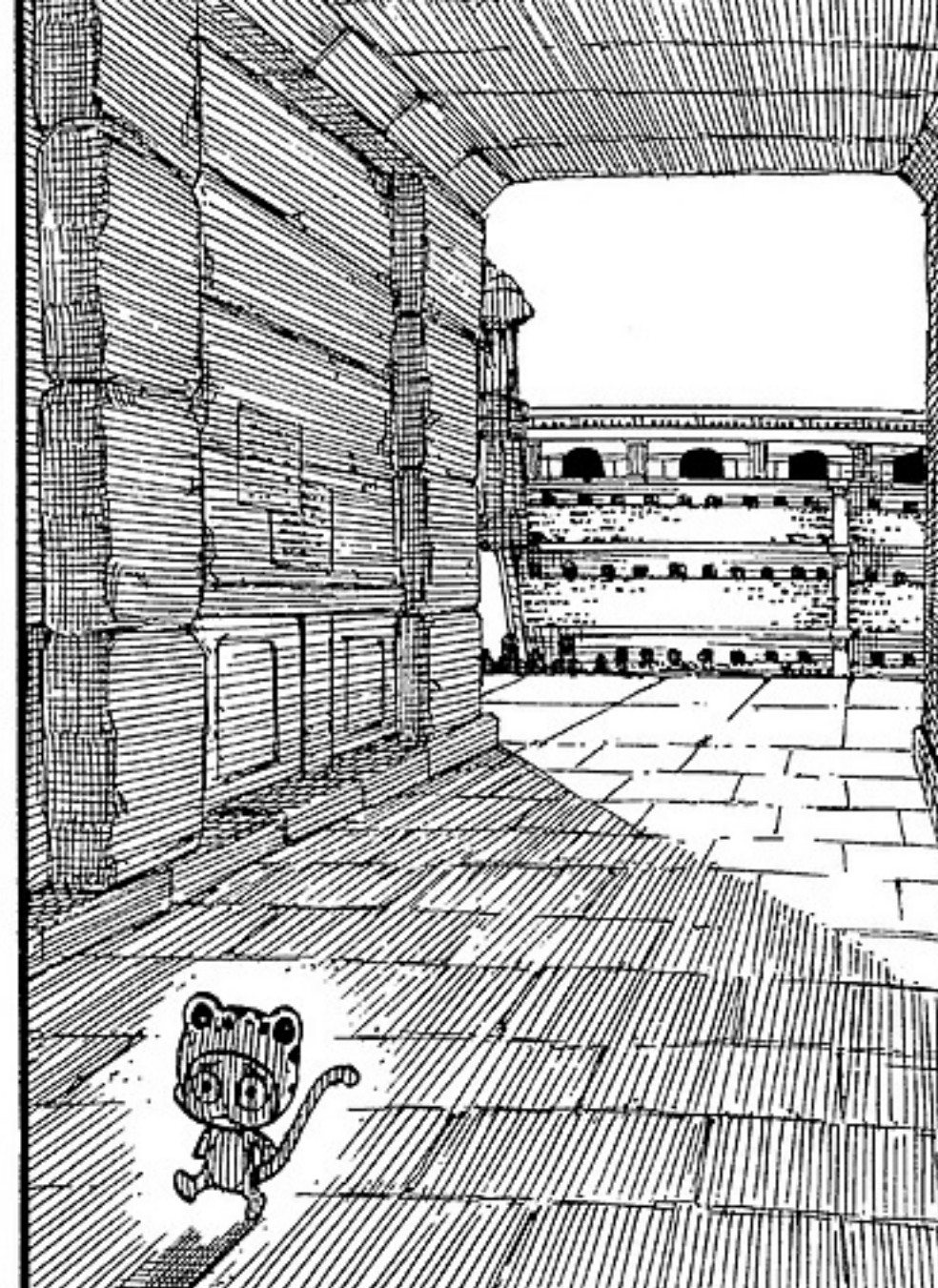


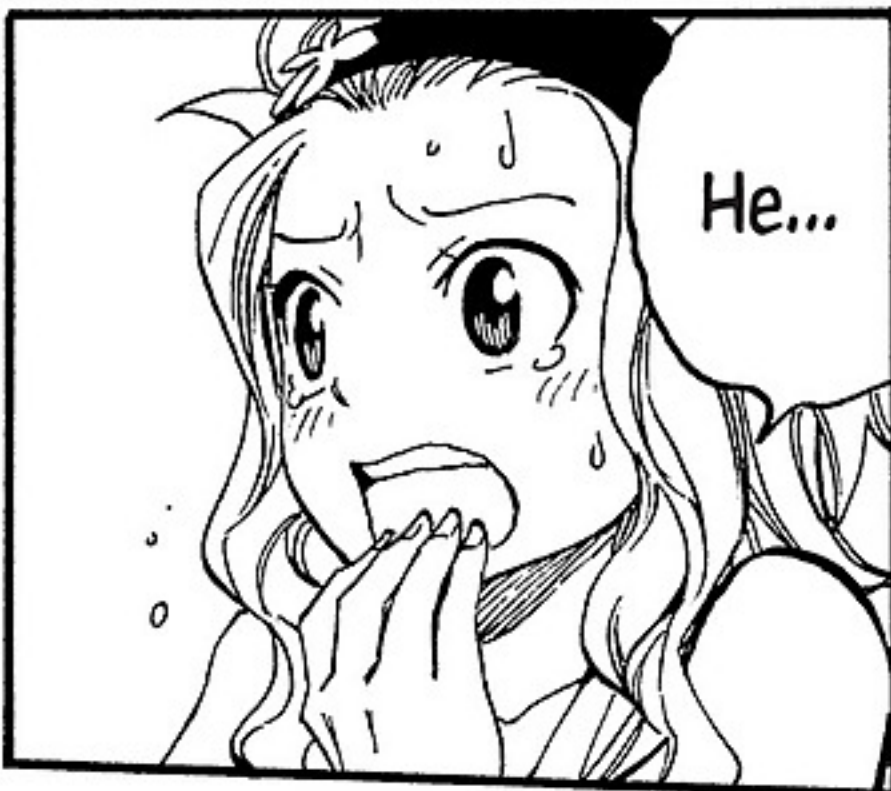
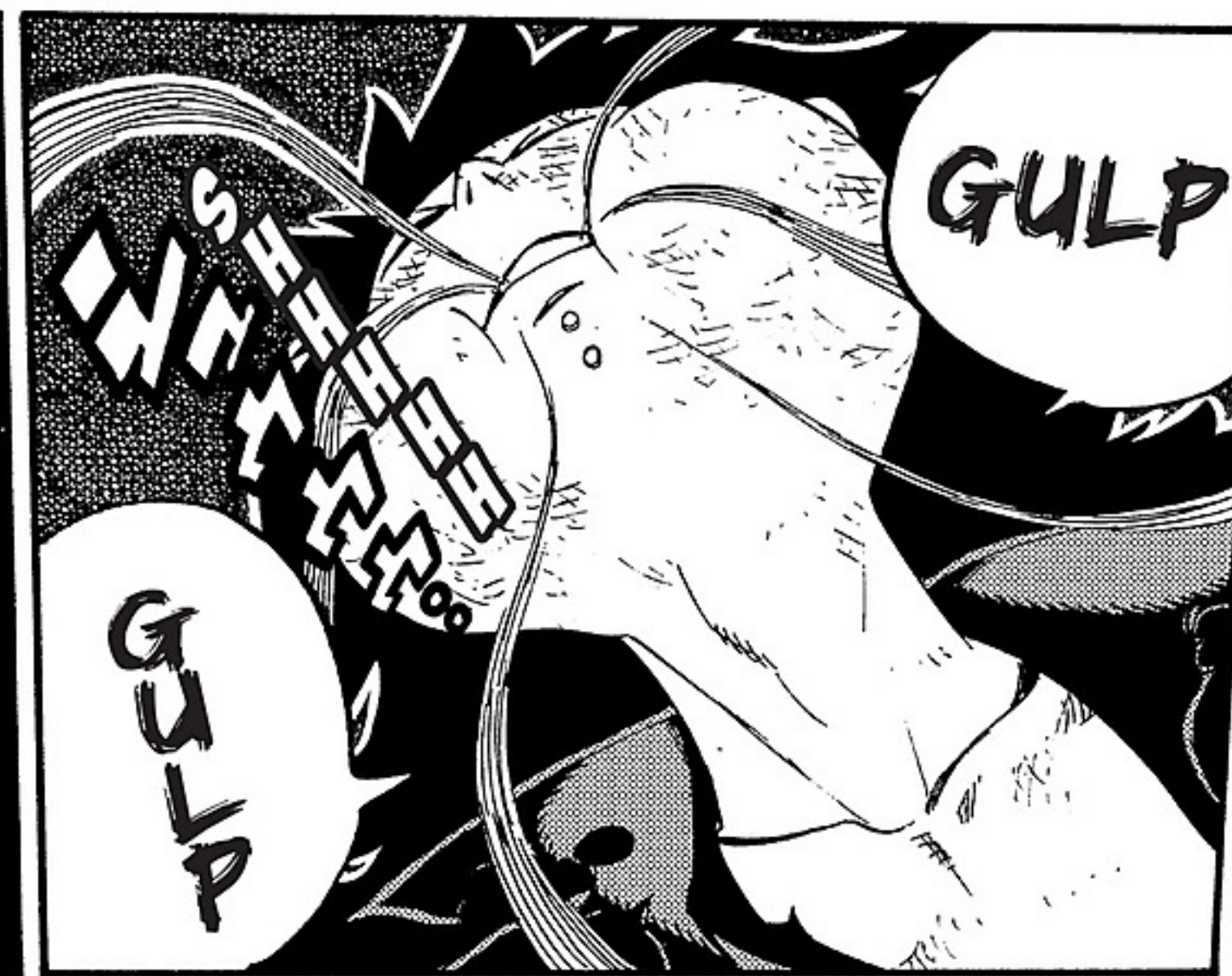
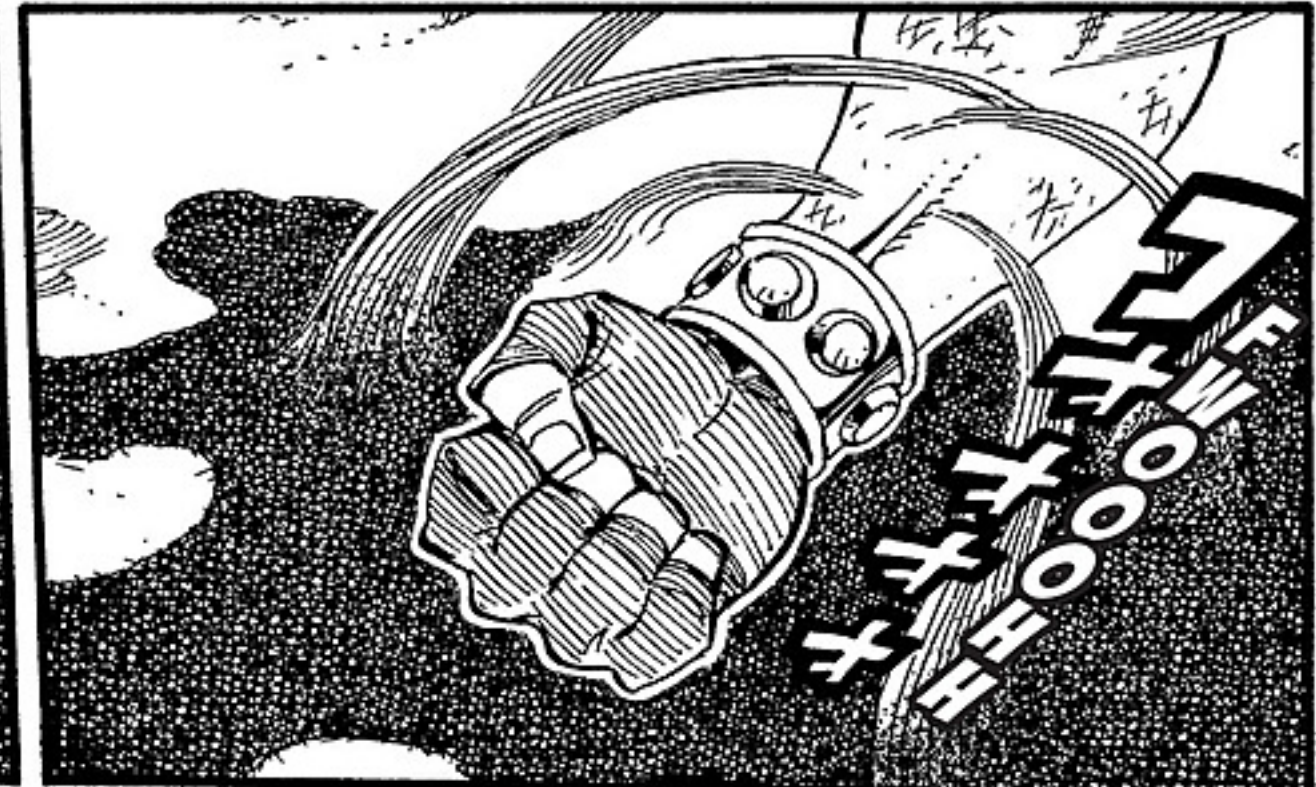
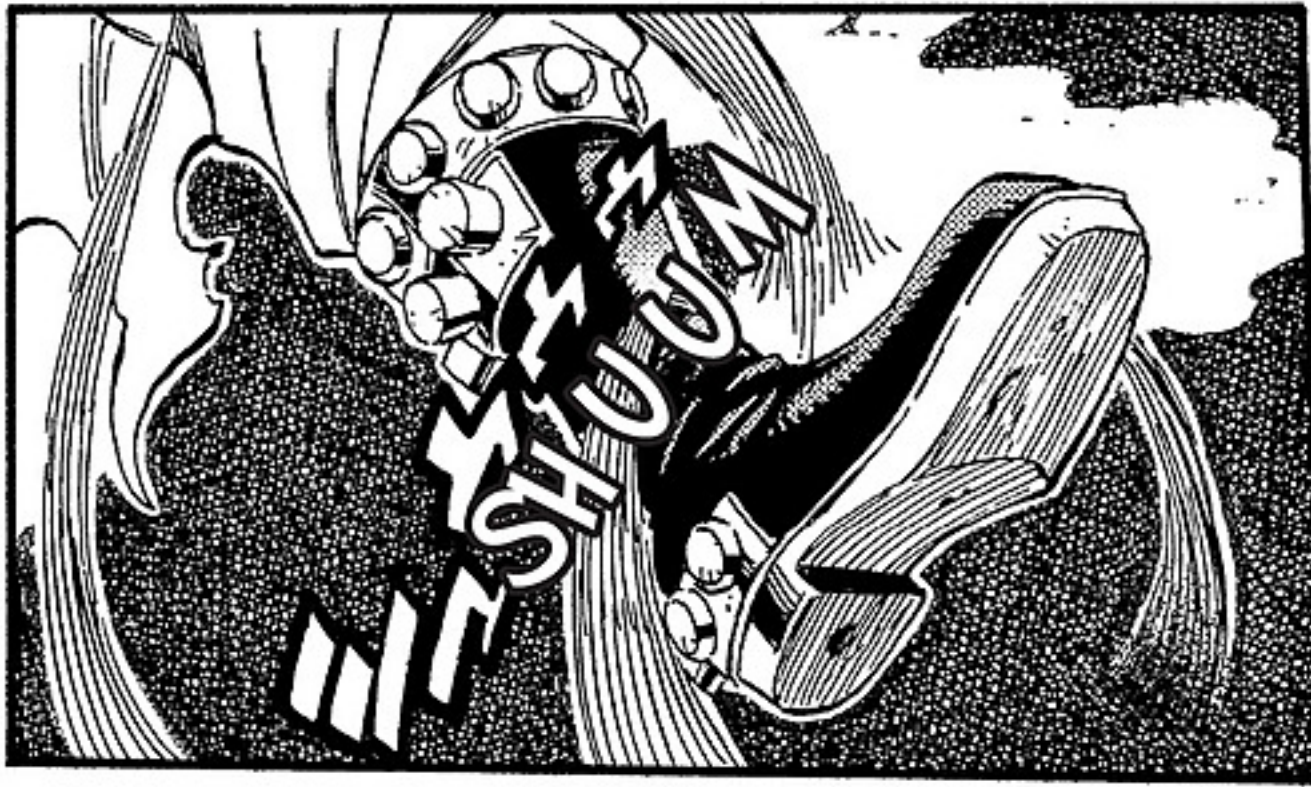


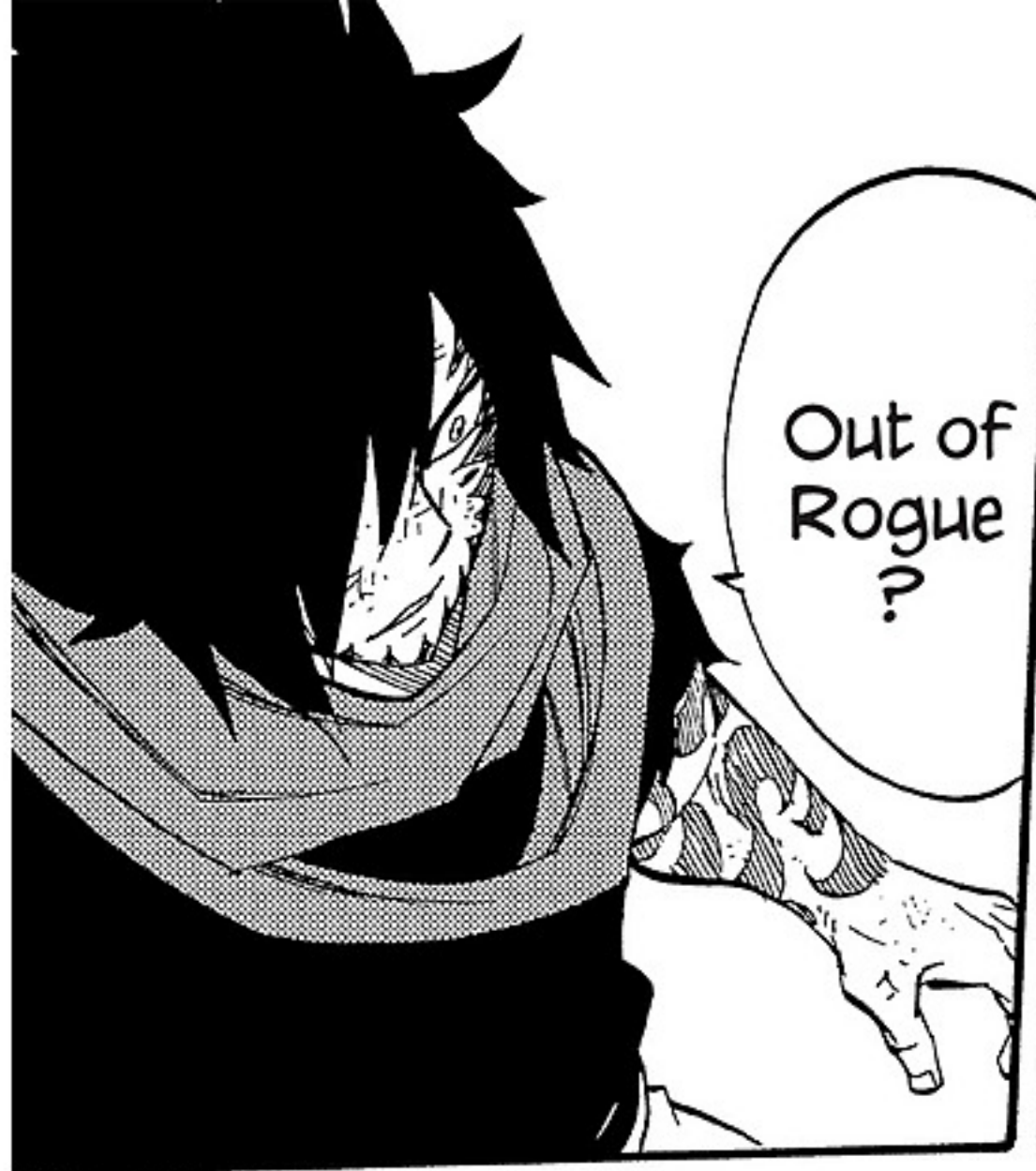












Out of
Rogue
?



I don't know
who you are,
but you'd
better get
outta his
body.



He was *my*
apprentice,
and his
name is
Lios!

Besides,
his name
ain't
Rogue!



Is
this...?

You were
just
scared
of me!



There was
nothin' to look
up to in me
back then.
I know that
better than
anyone!



And you
didn't
look up
to me!





... an
Iron-
Shadow
Dragon
?!!!!

And I'm
gonna
make you
remember...

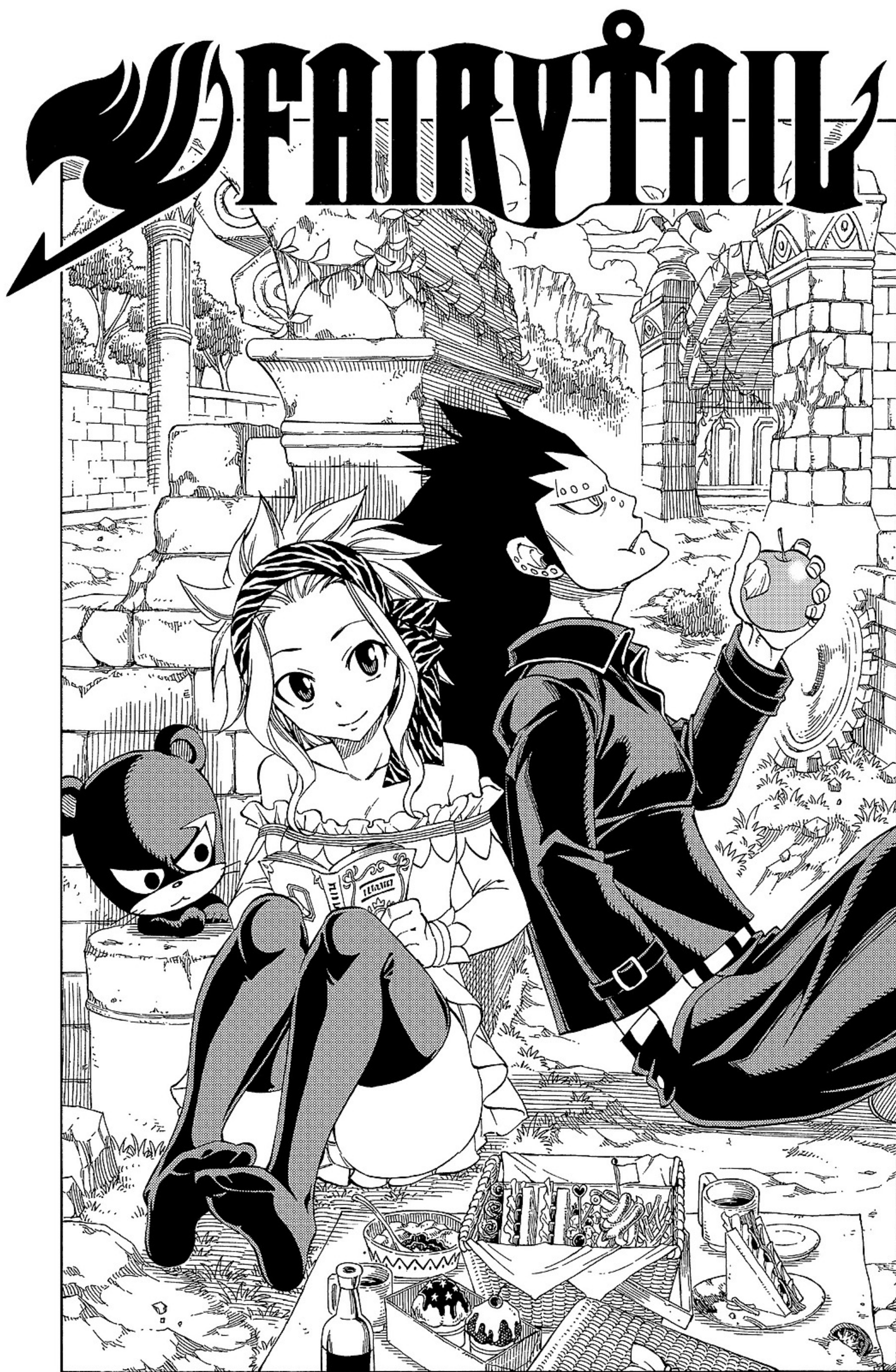
...that
fear once
again!

RUM

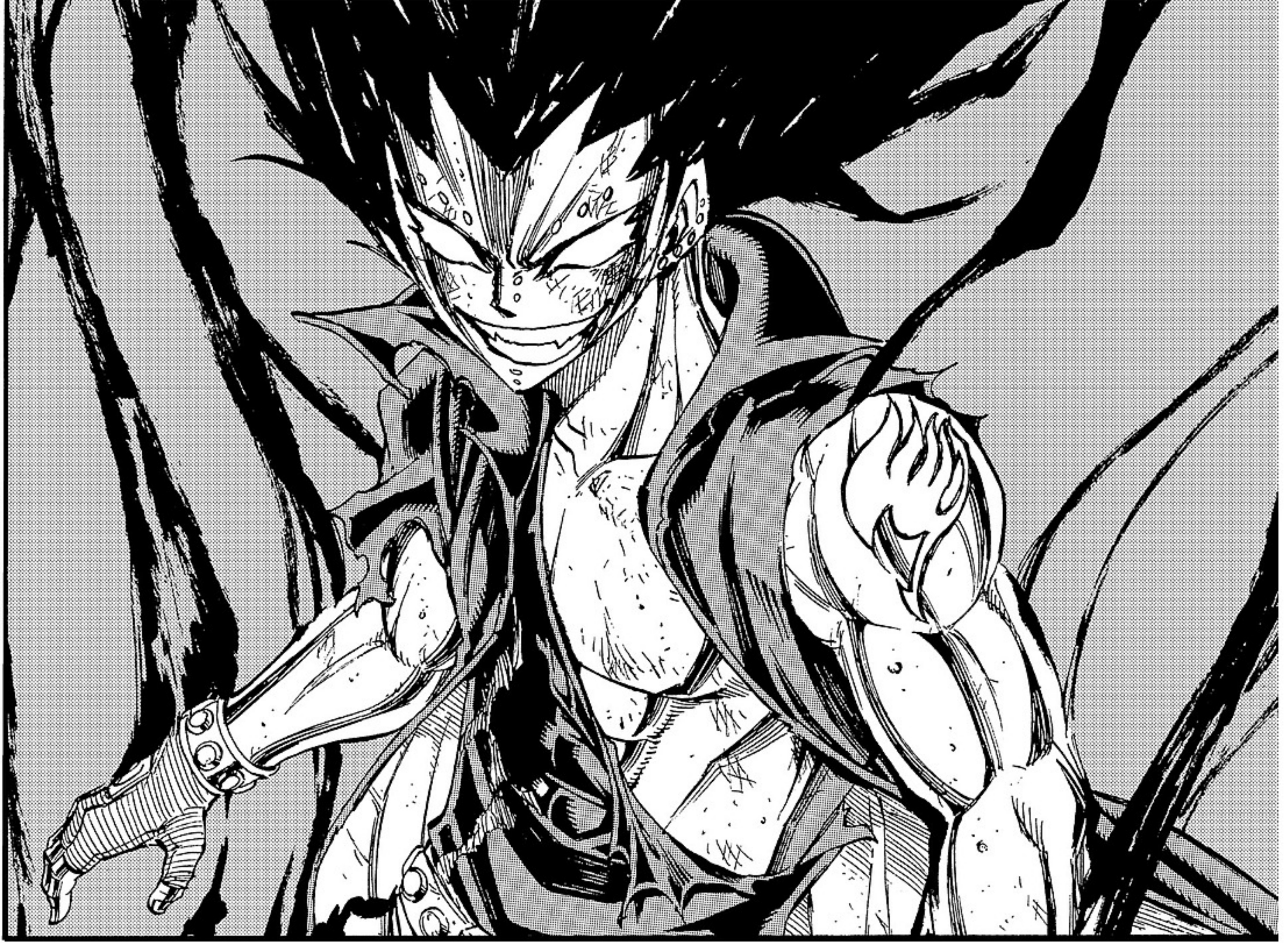
BLEE

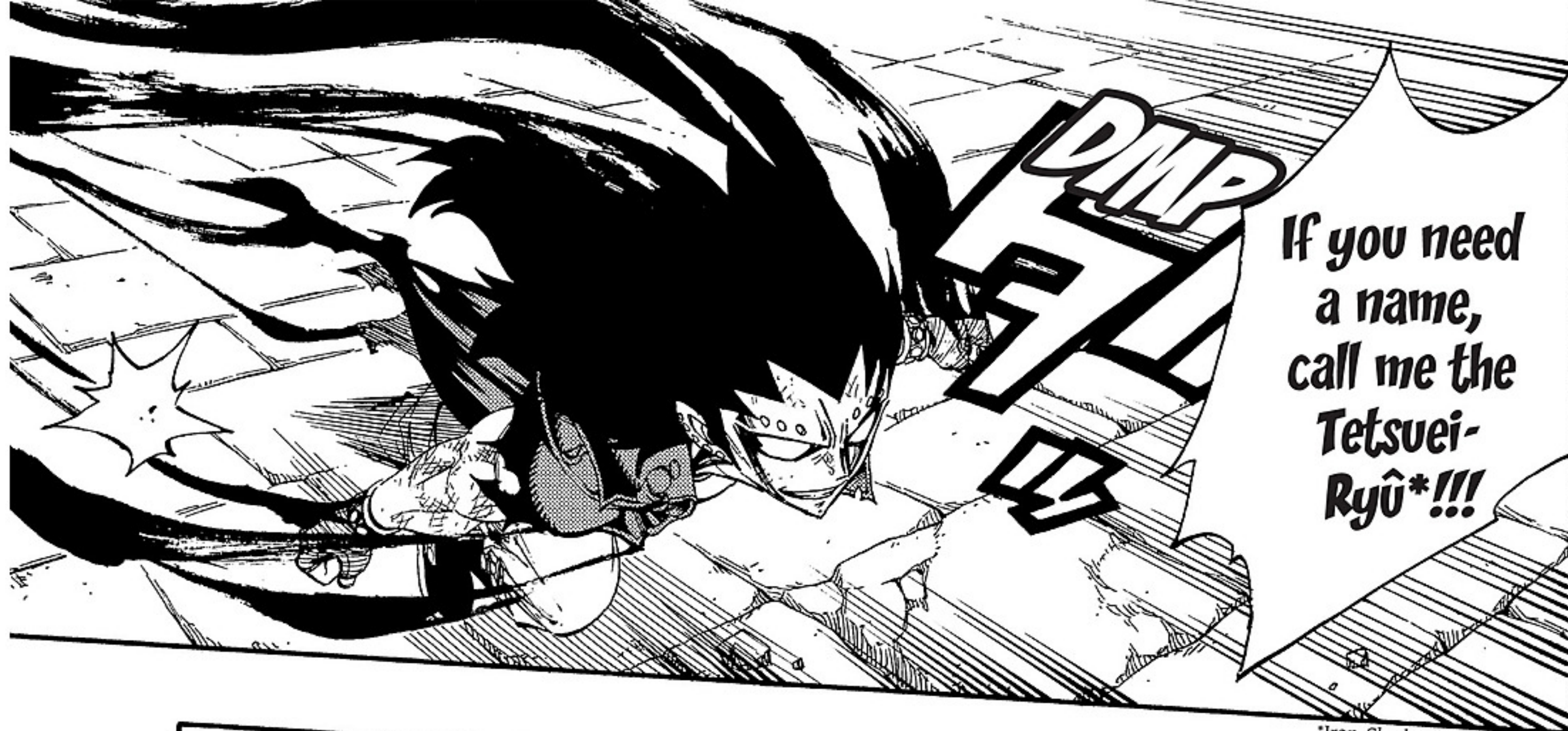


 **FAIRYTAIL**



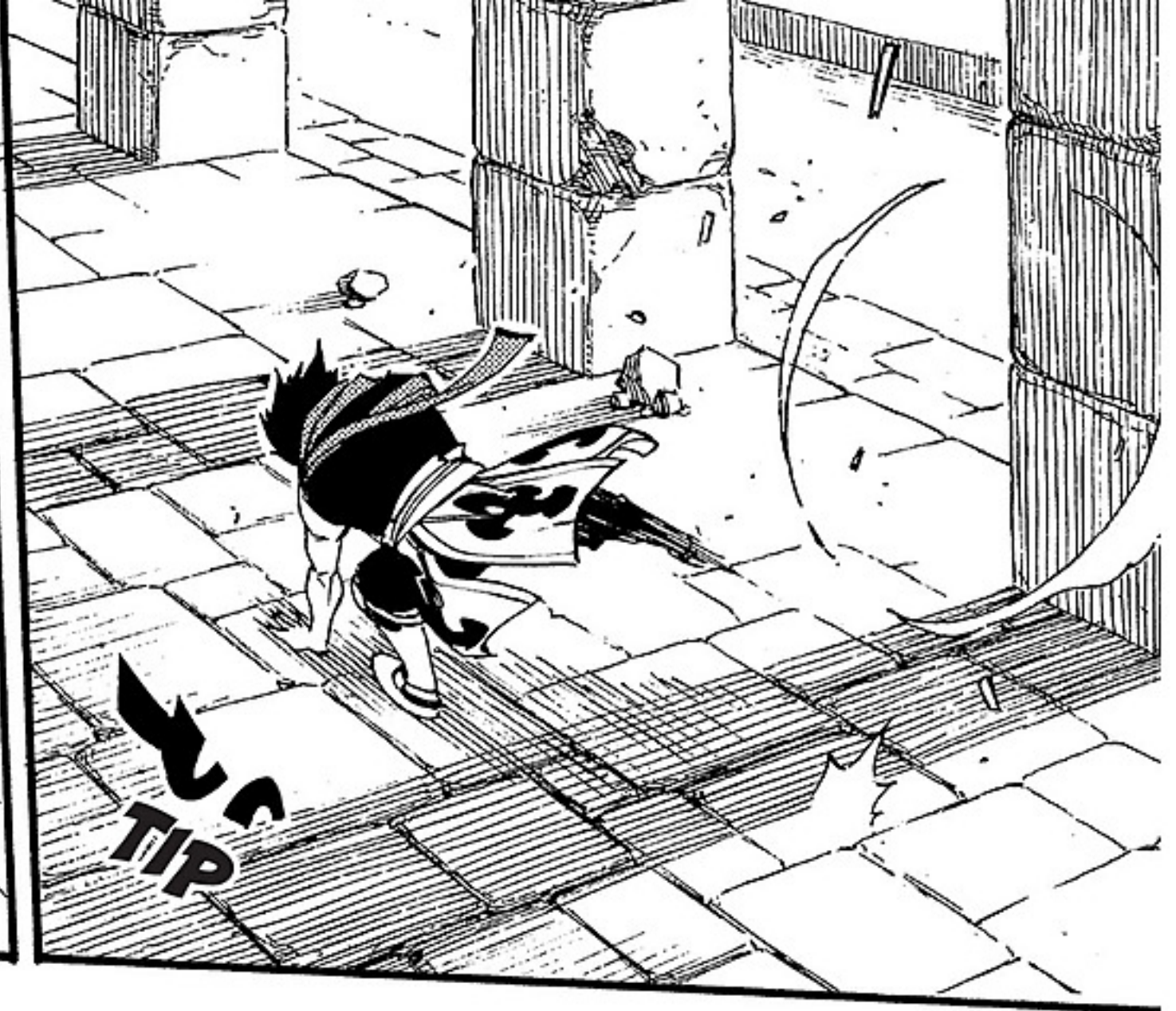
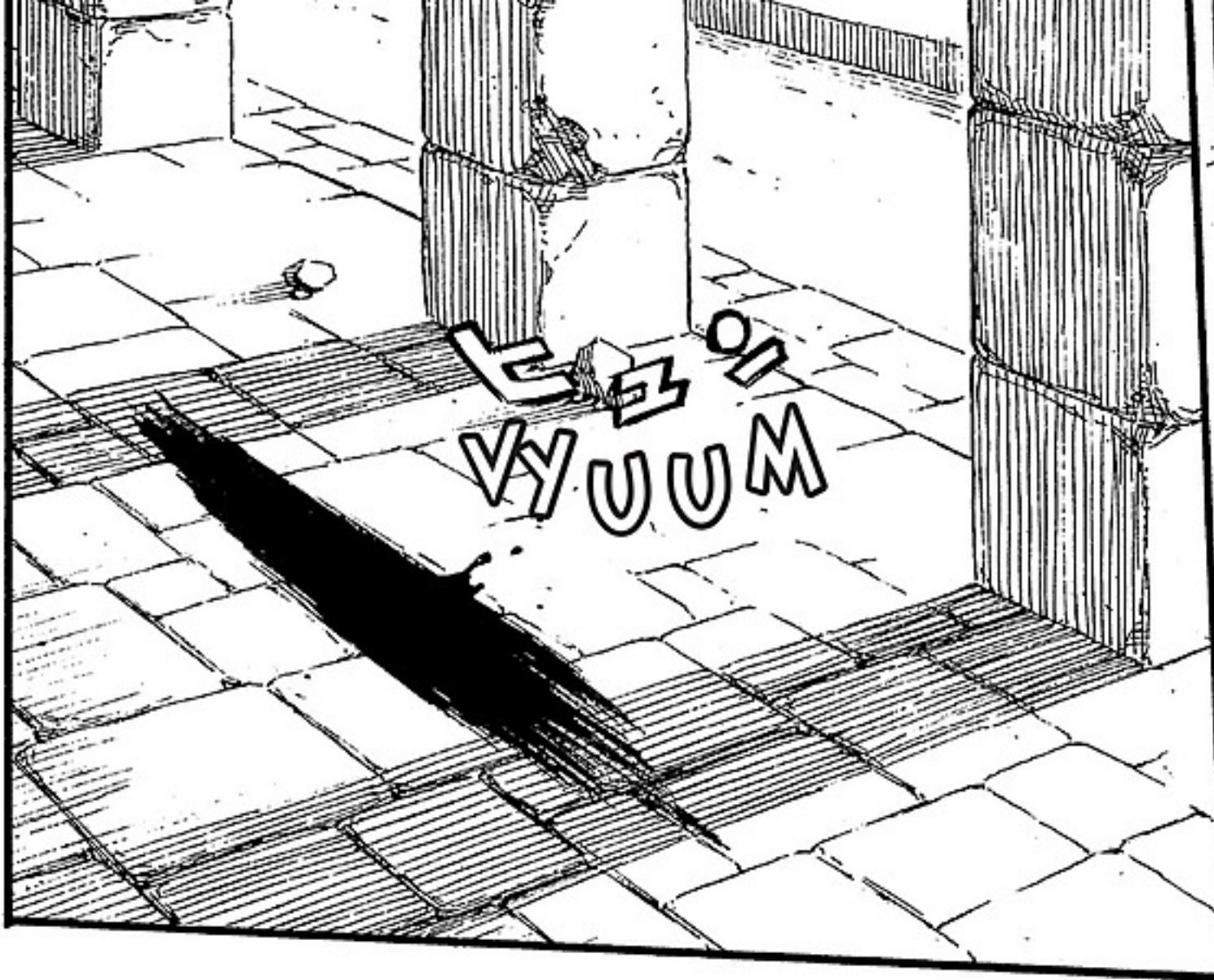
Chapter 319: White Knight

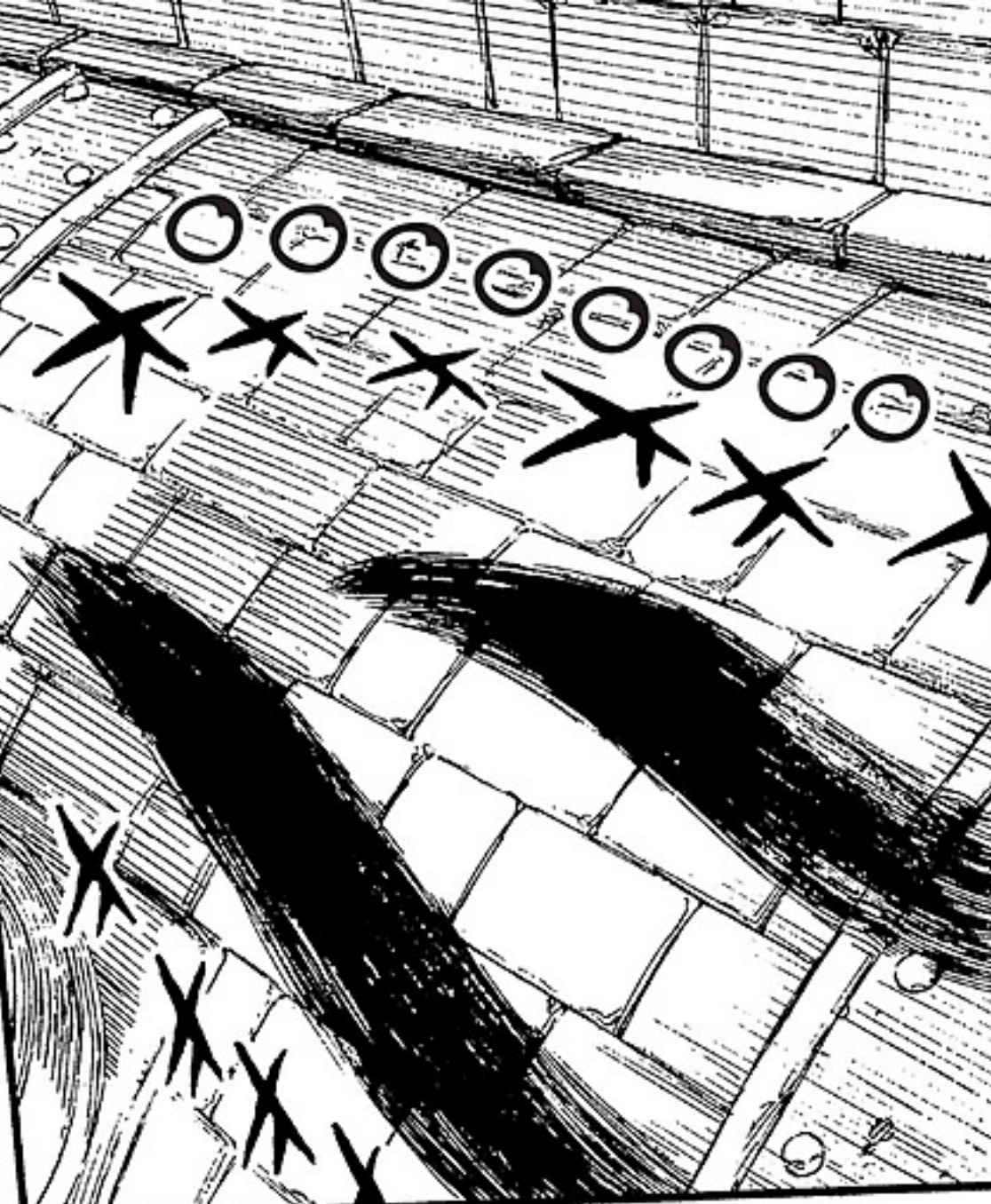




*Iron-Shadow Dragon!



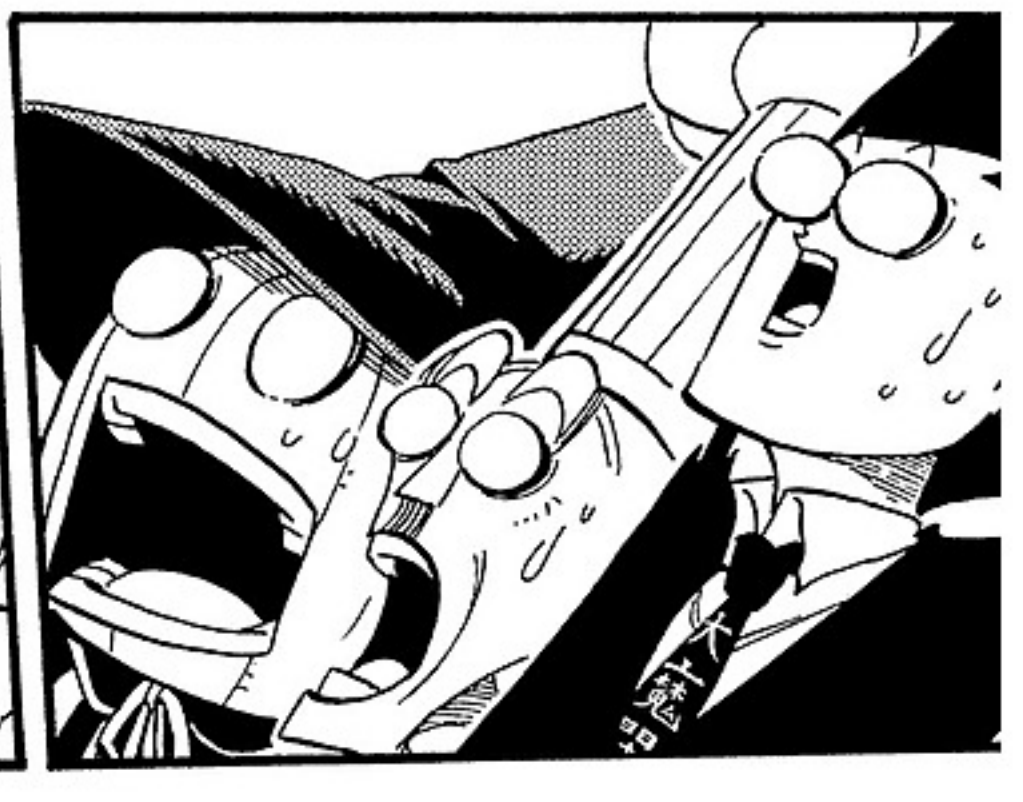
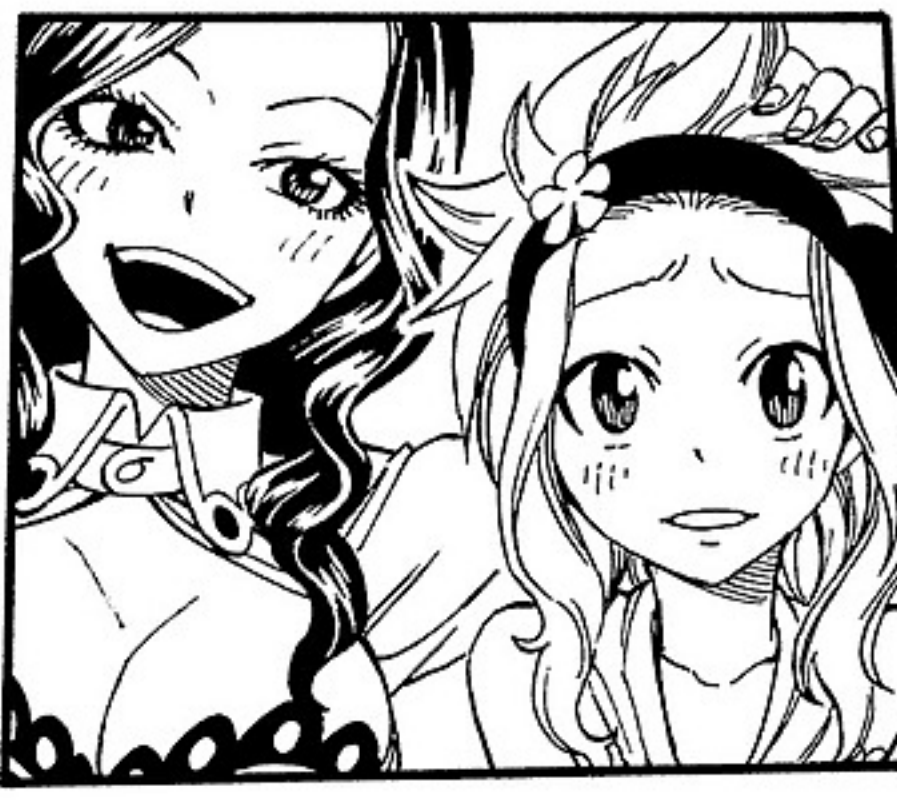
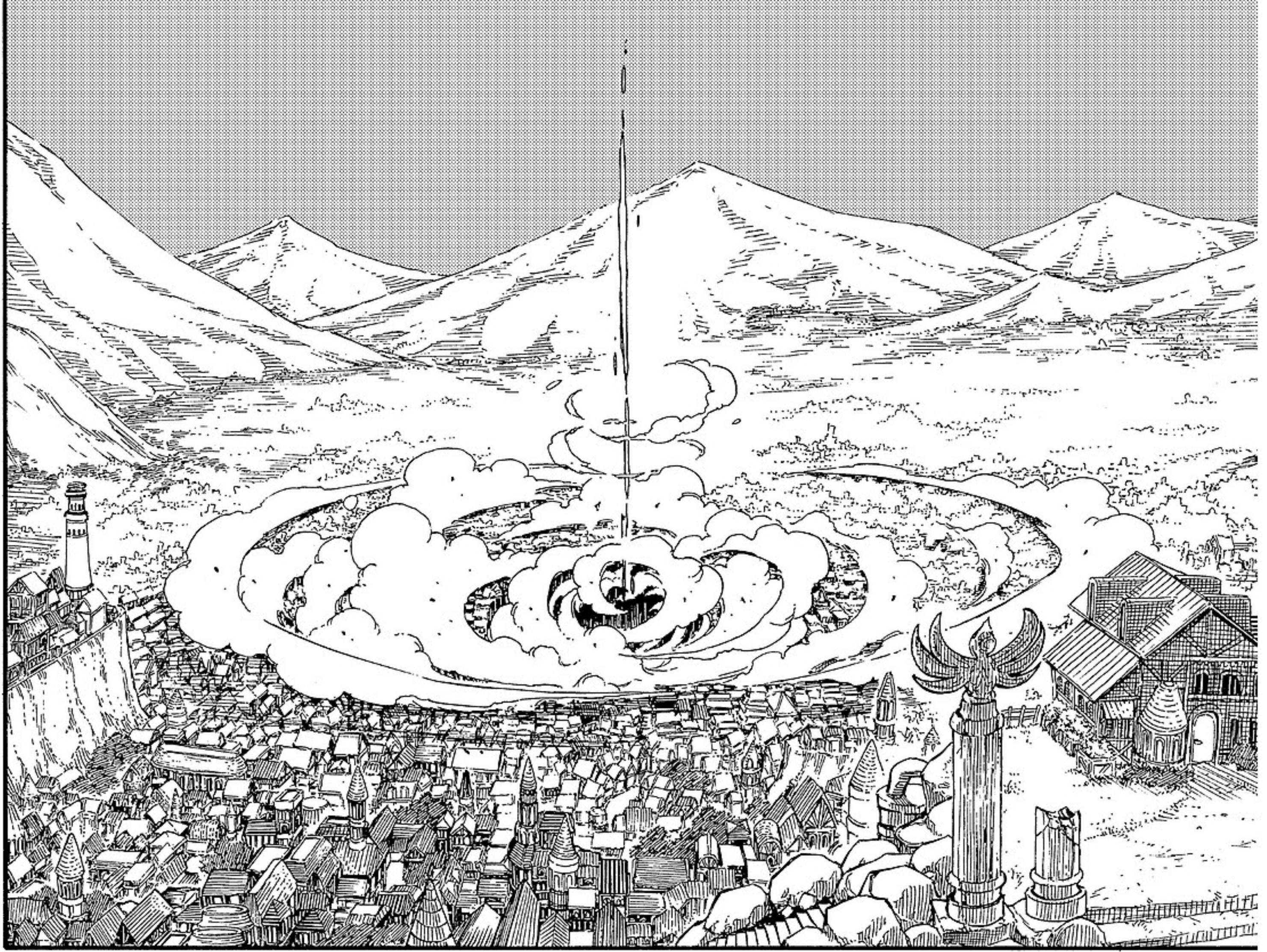












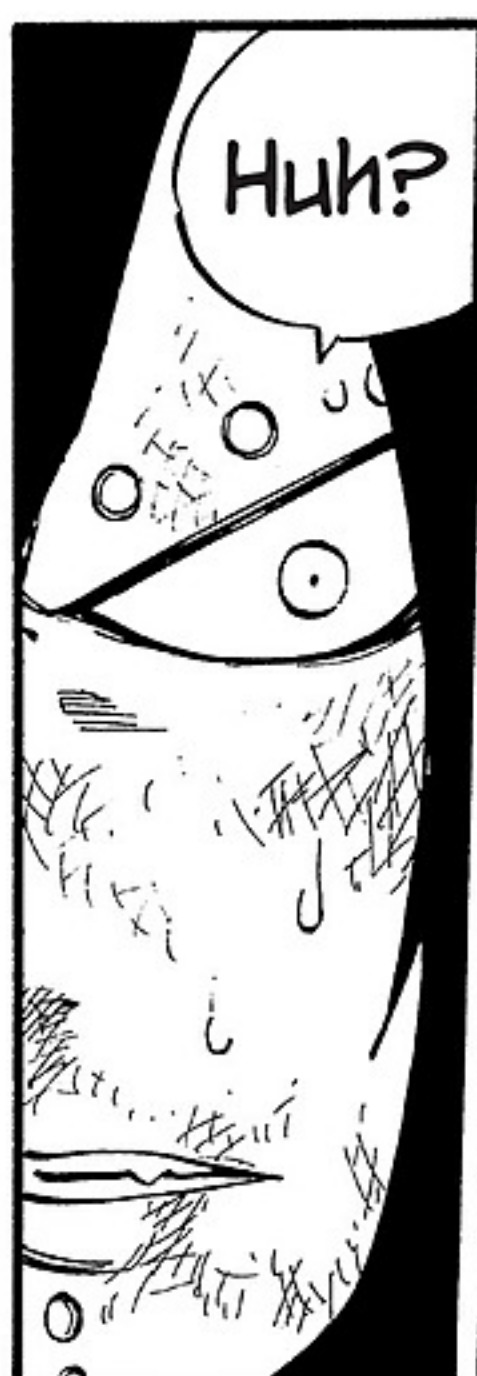


1. Saber T^o PING 55p
2. Fairy Tail 51p
3. Lamia Scale 49p

FAIRY TAIL
GAINS A
POINT!!!

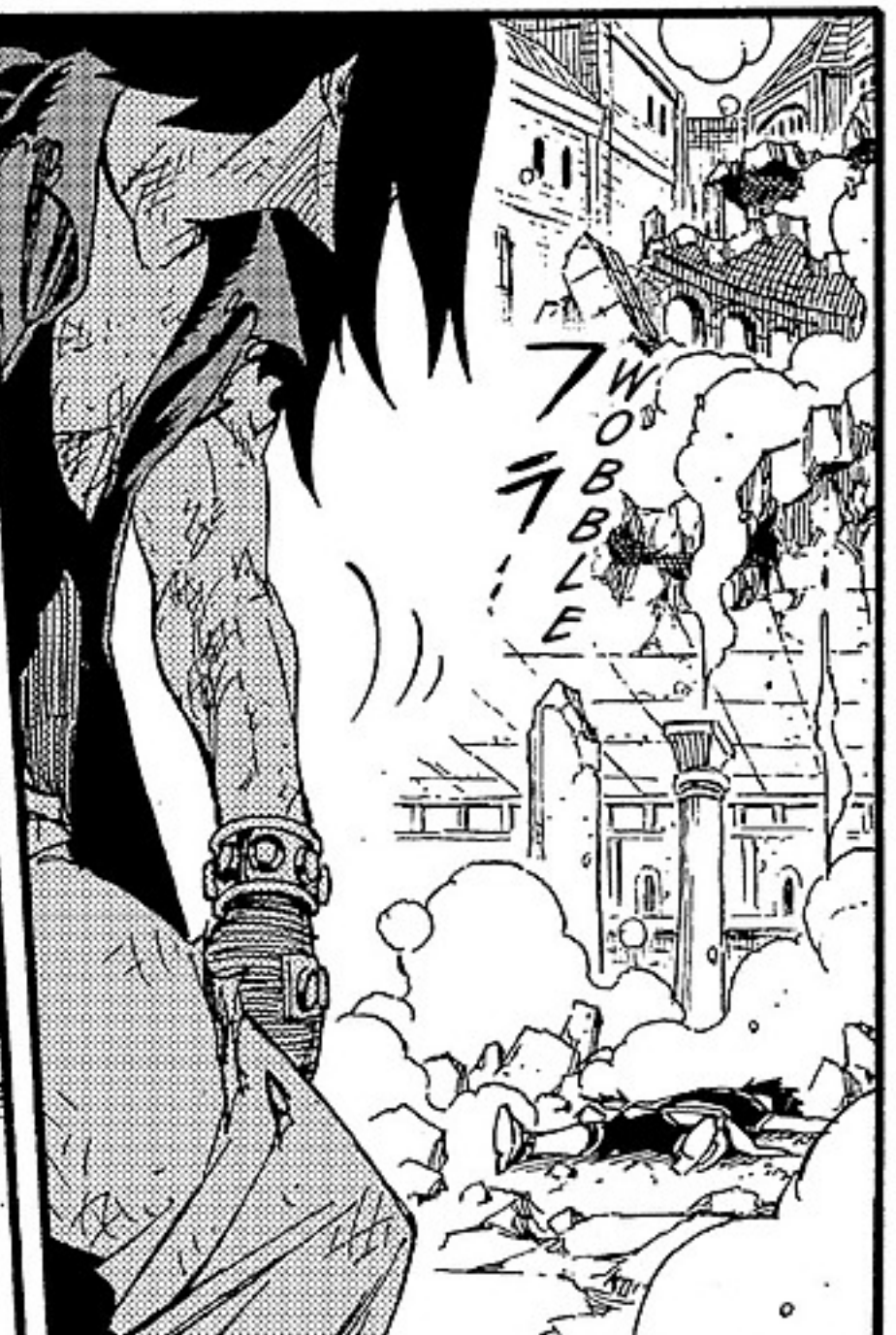
WE HAVE A
WINNER!!!

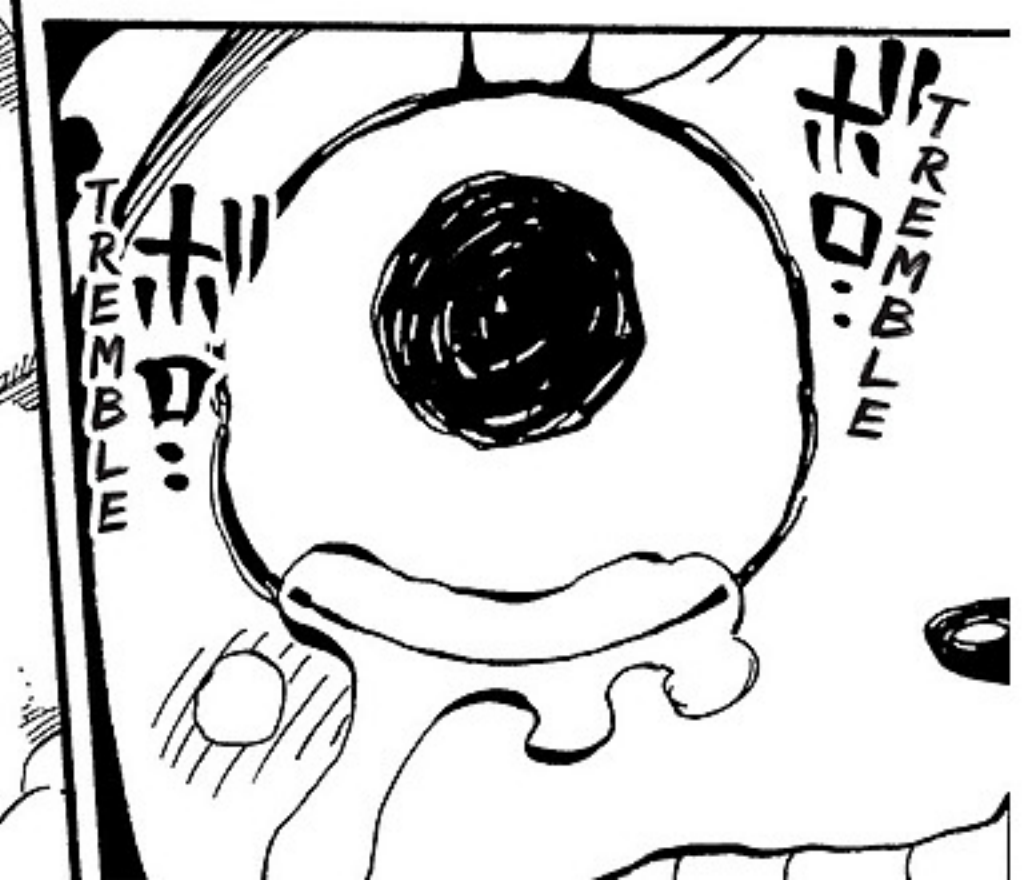
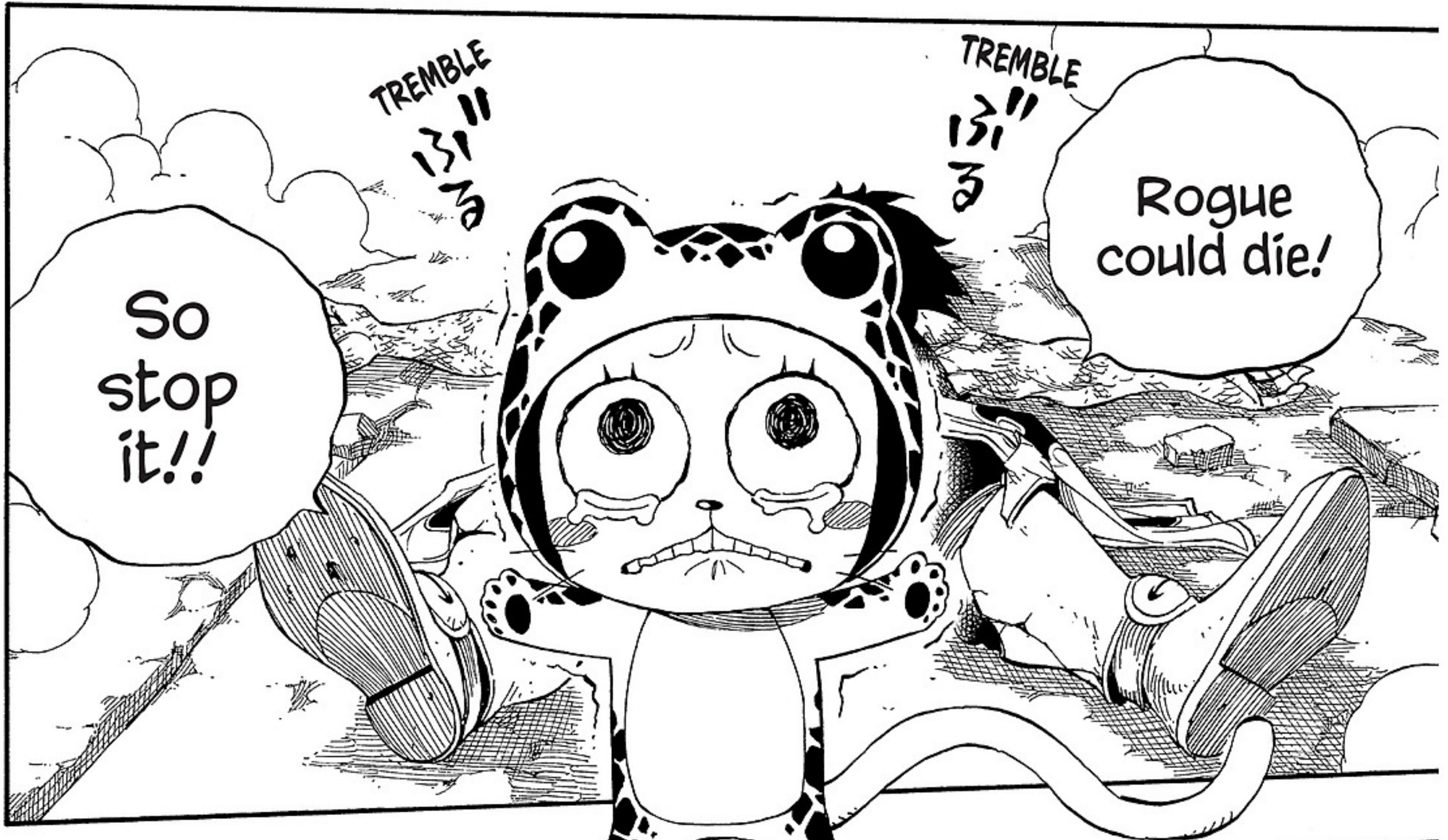
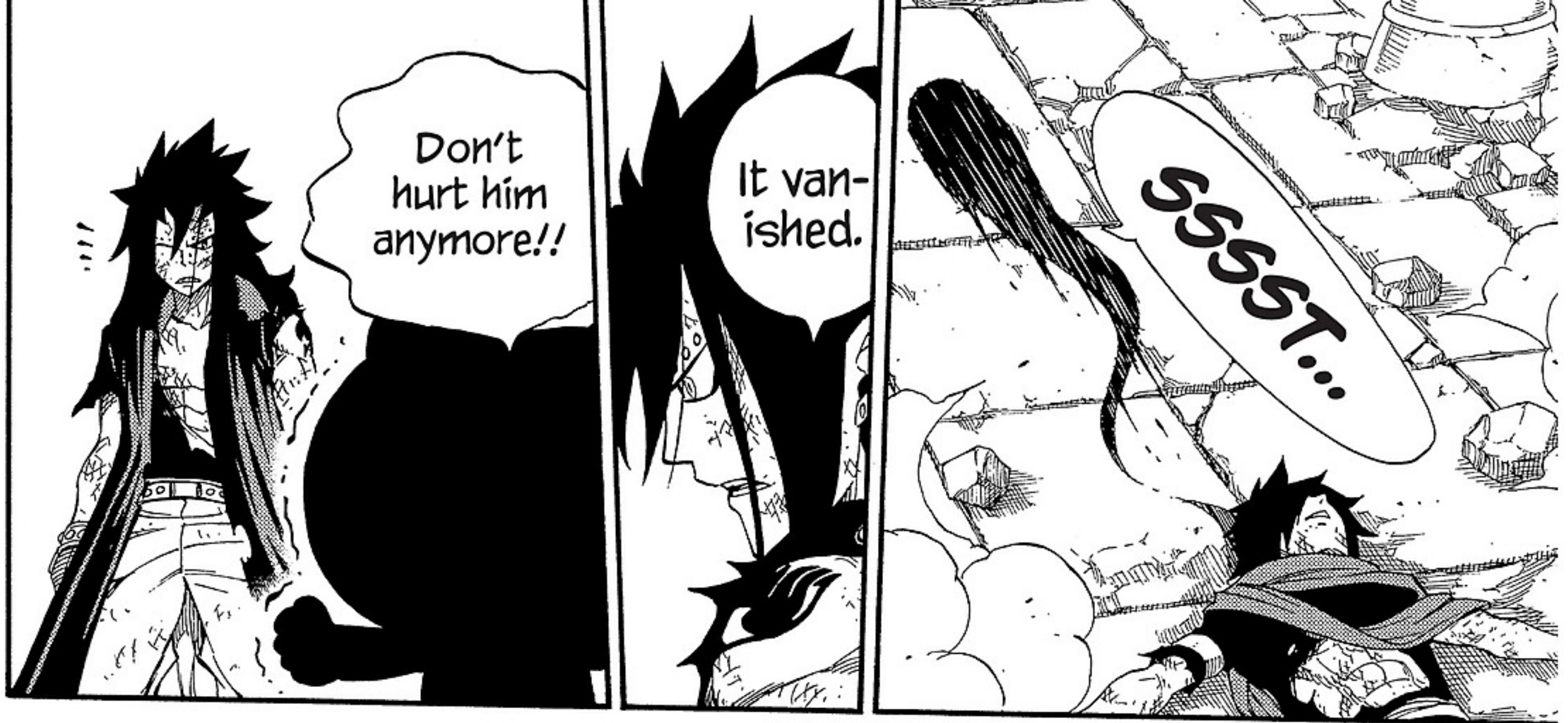
GAJEEEL
WINS!!!

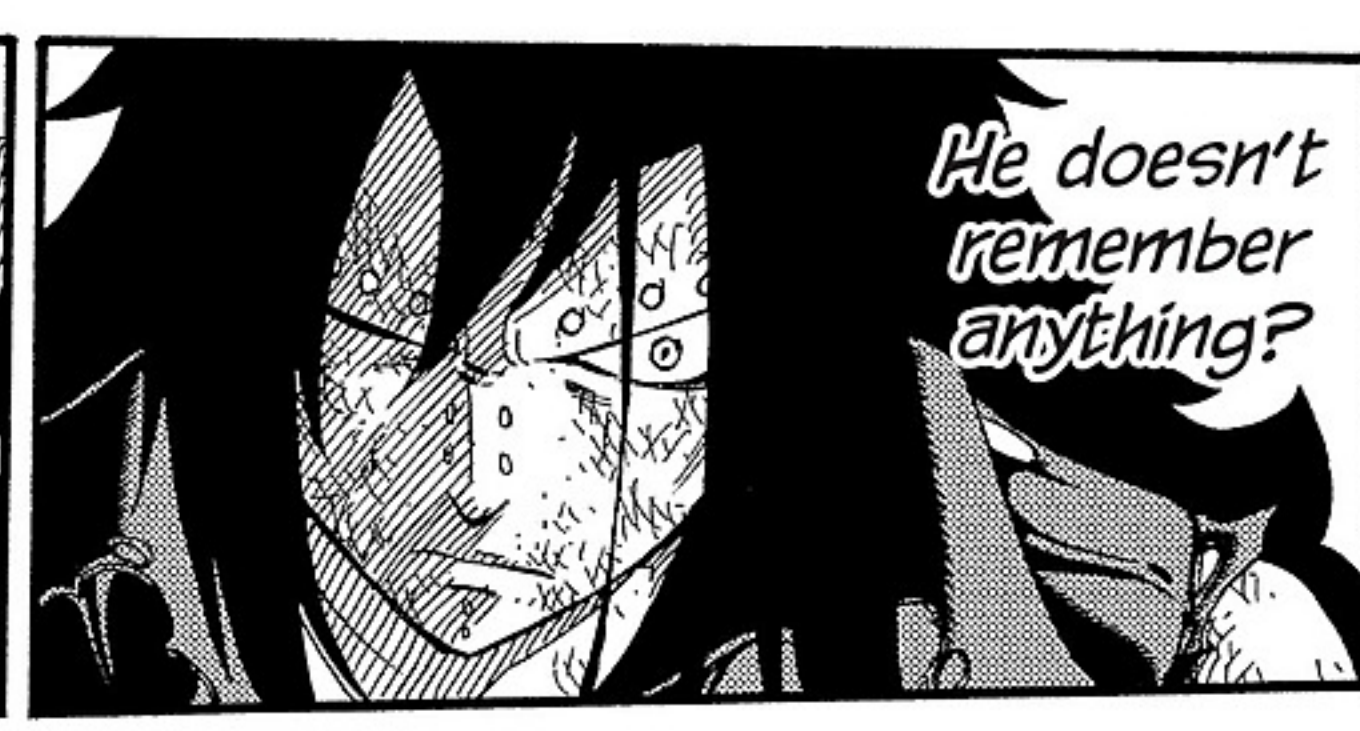
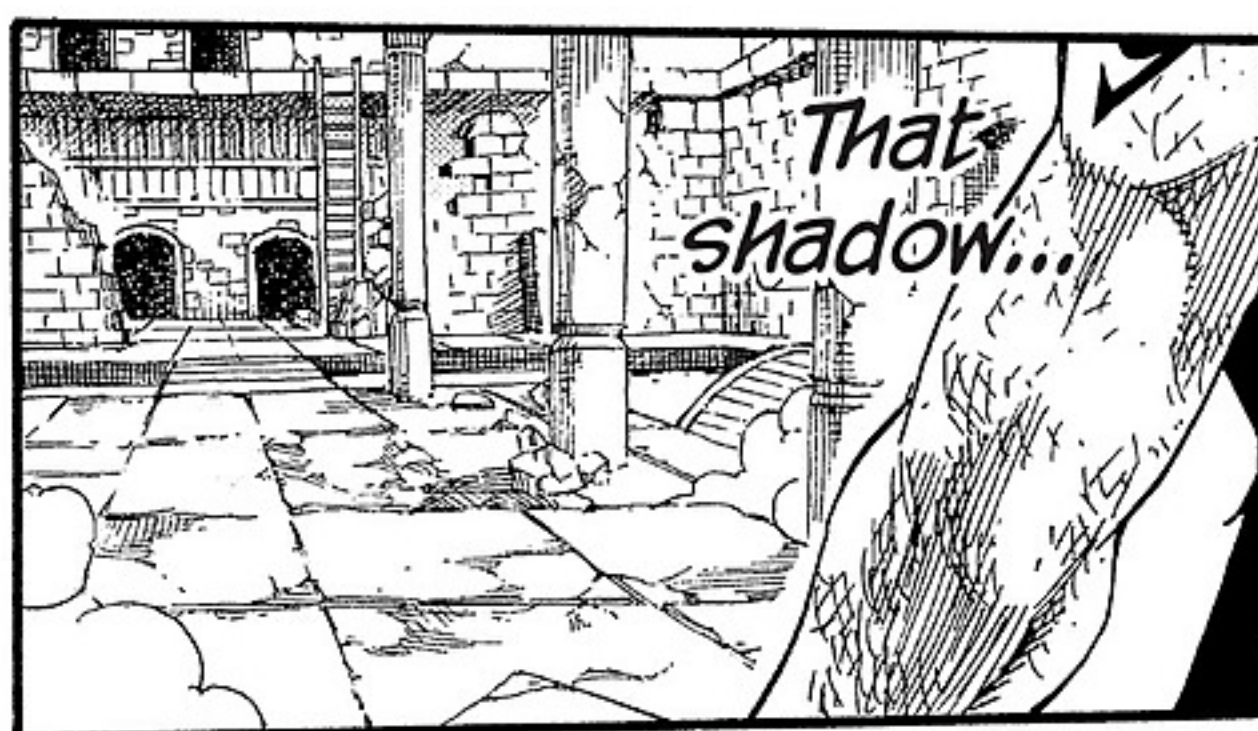


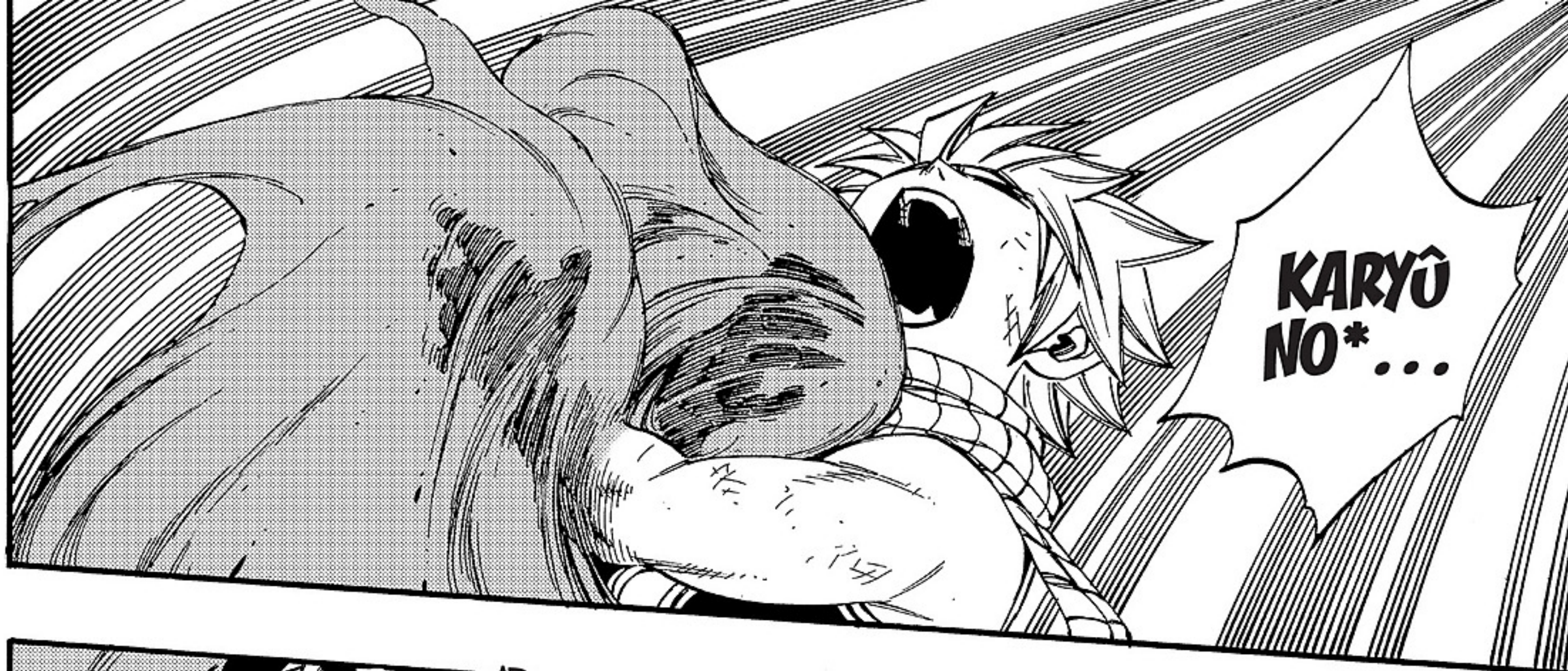
Heh
heh...

I figured I
had pushed
the Rogue of
this time to
his limits.





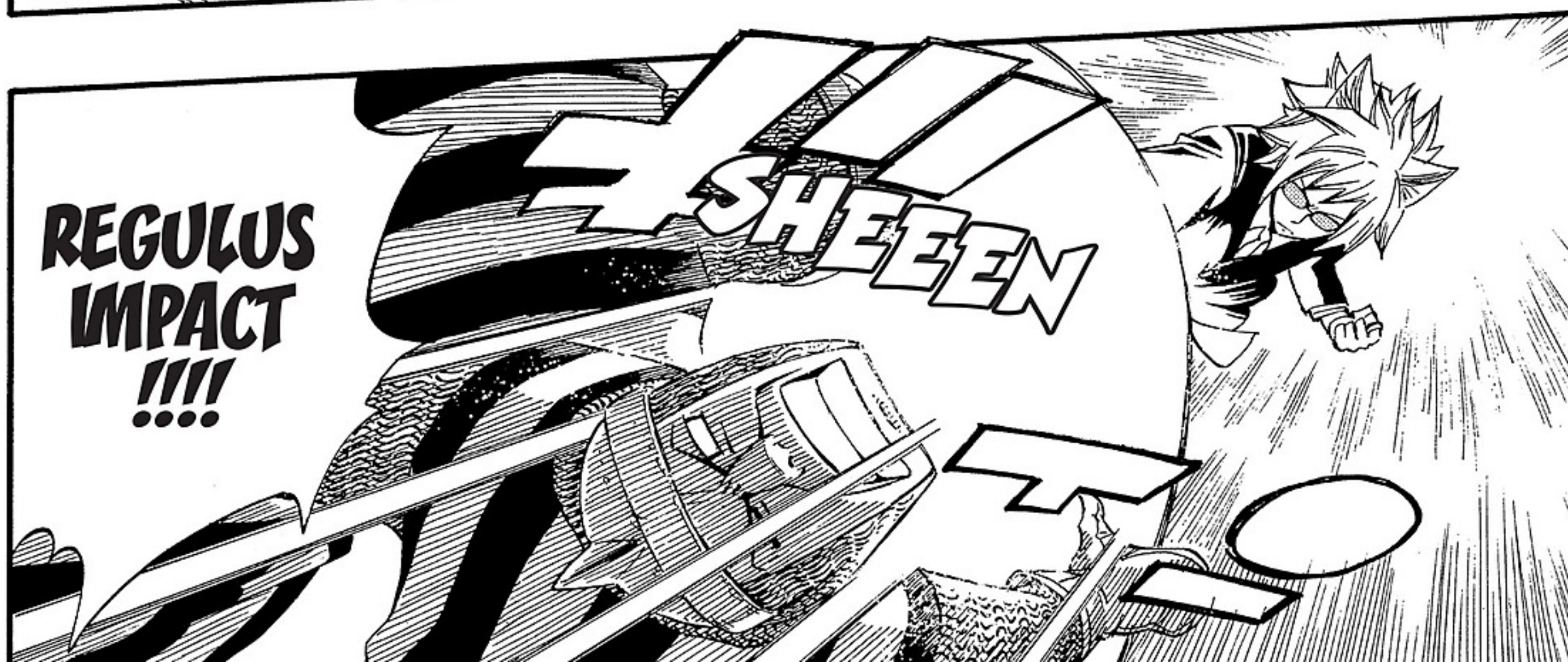




**KARYŪ
NO*...**

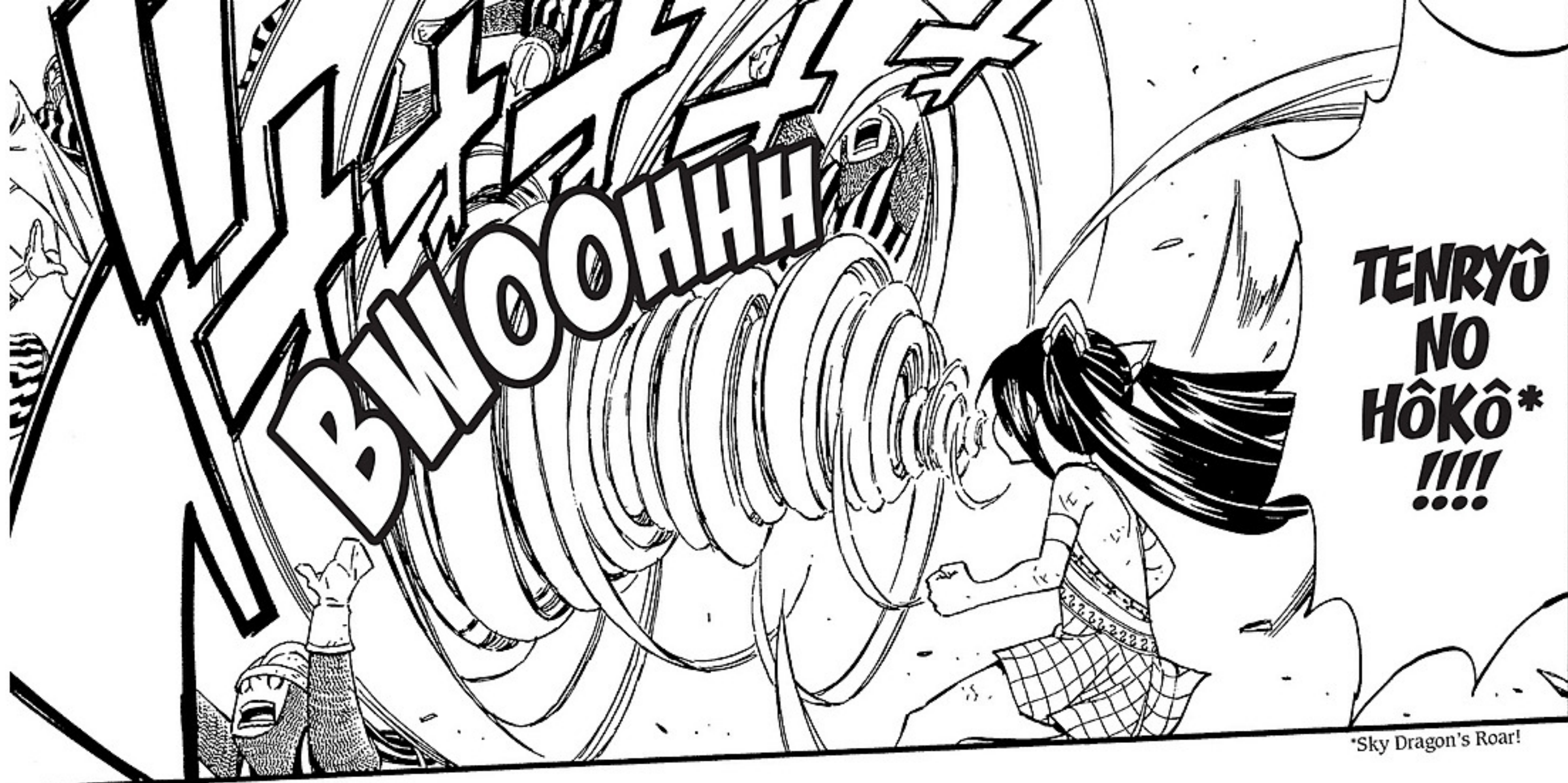


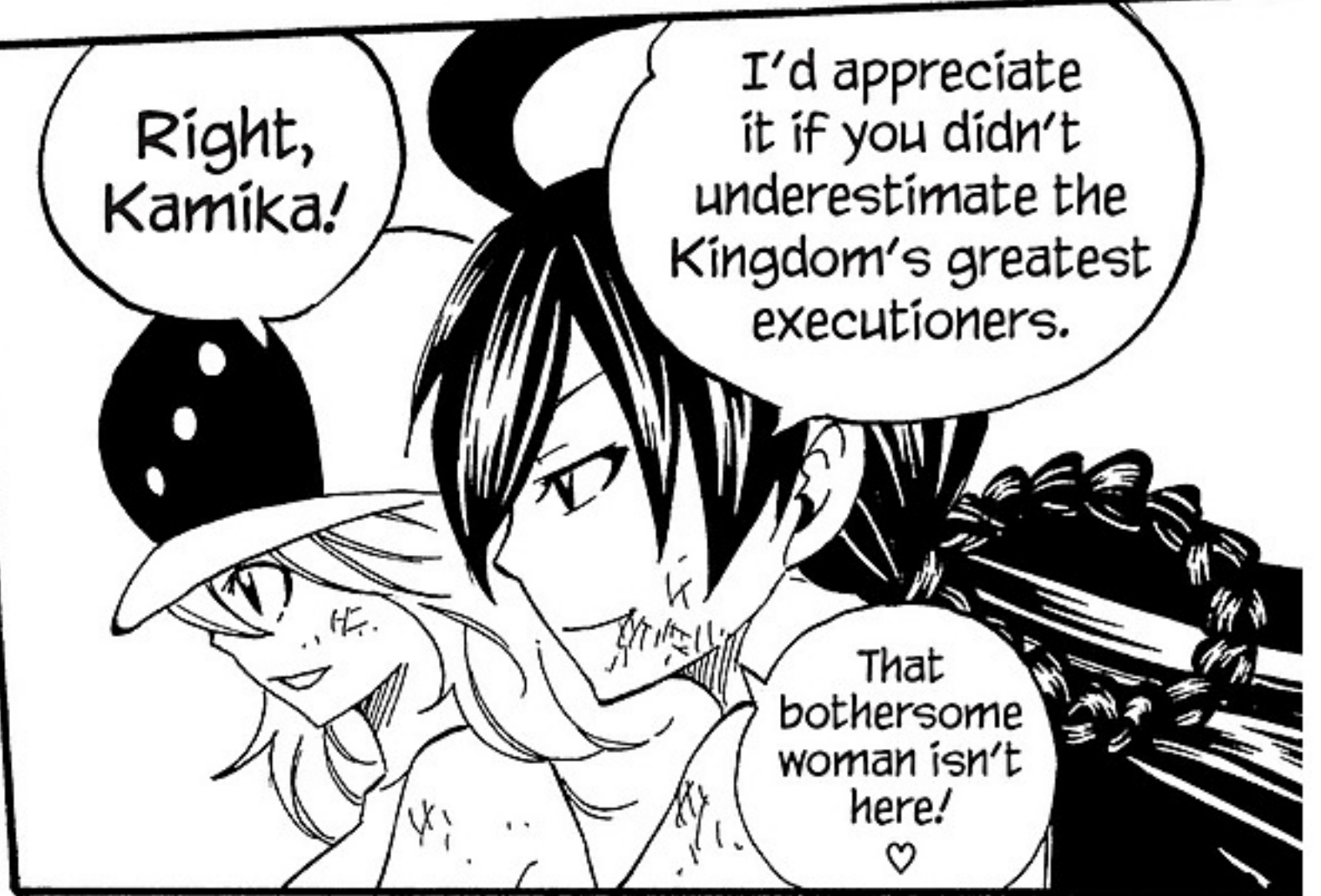
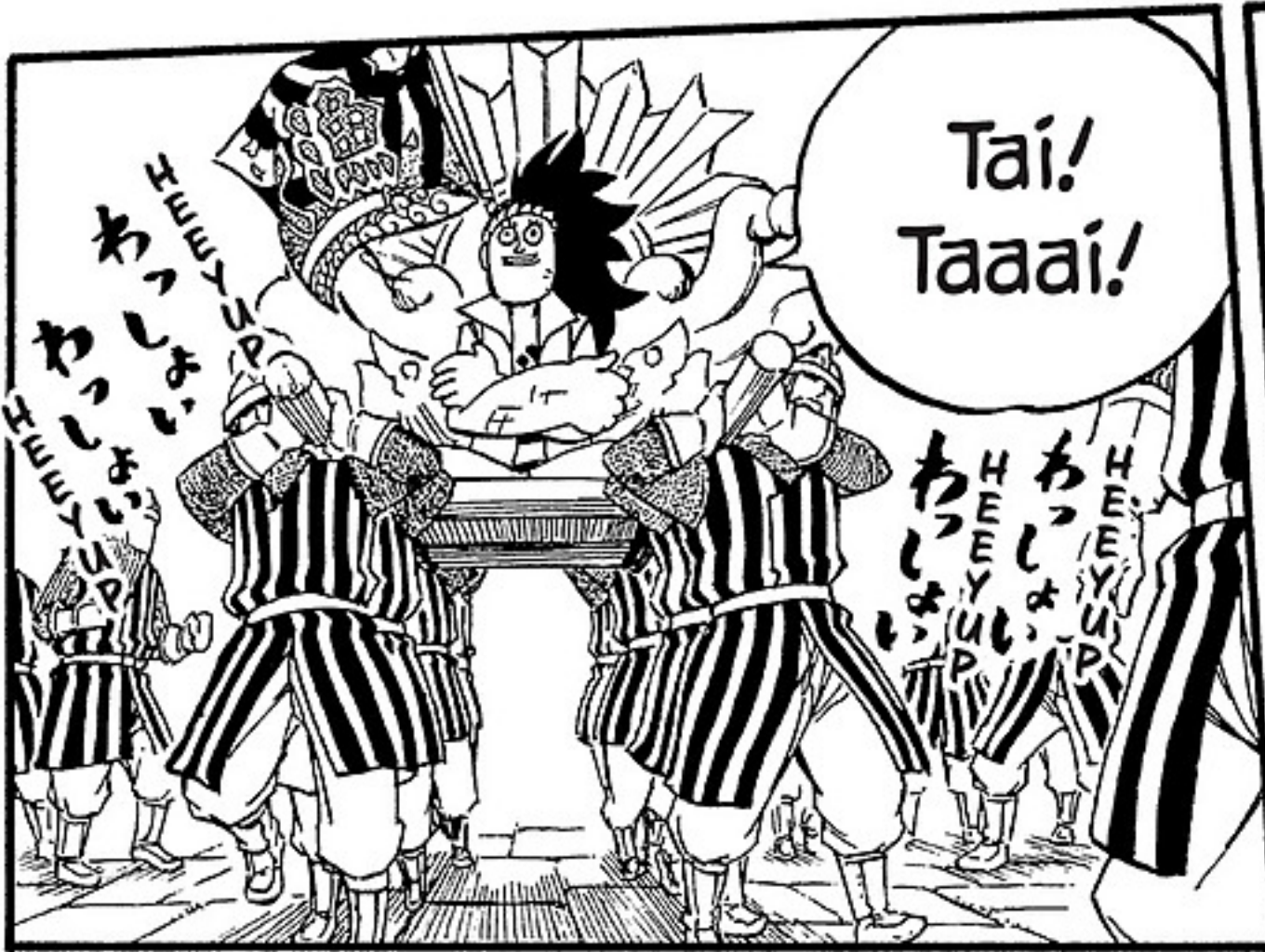
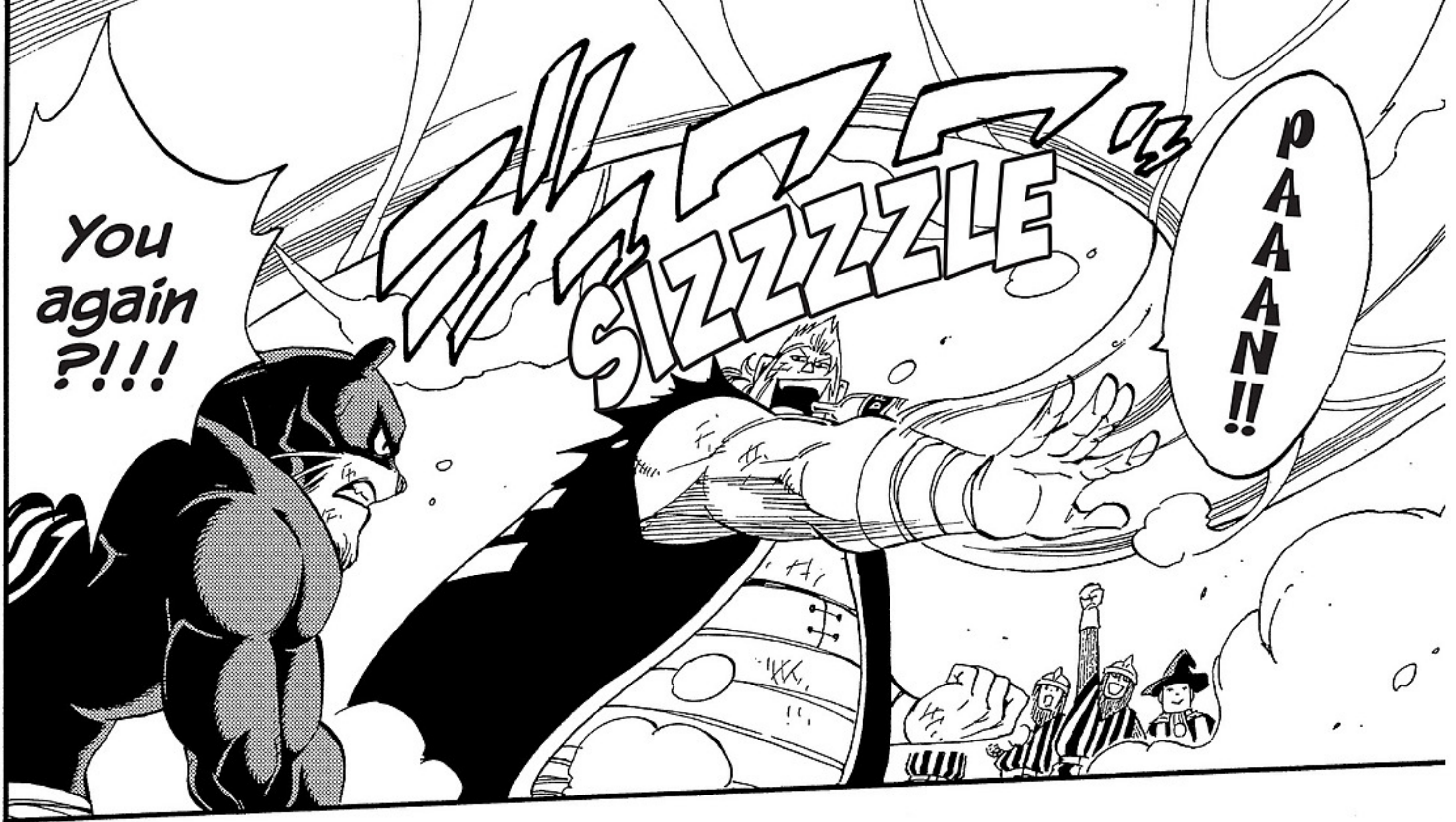
**YOKŪGEKI*
!!!!**

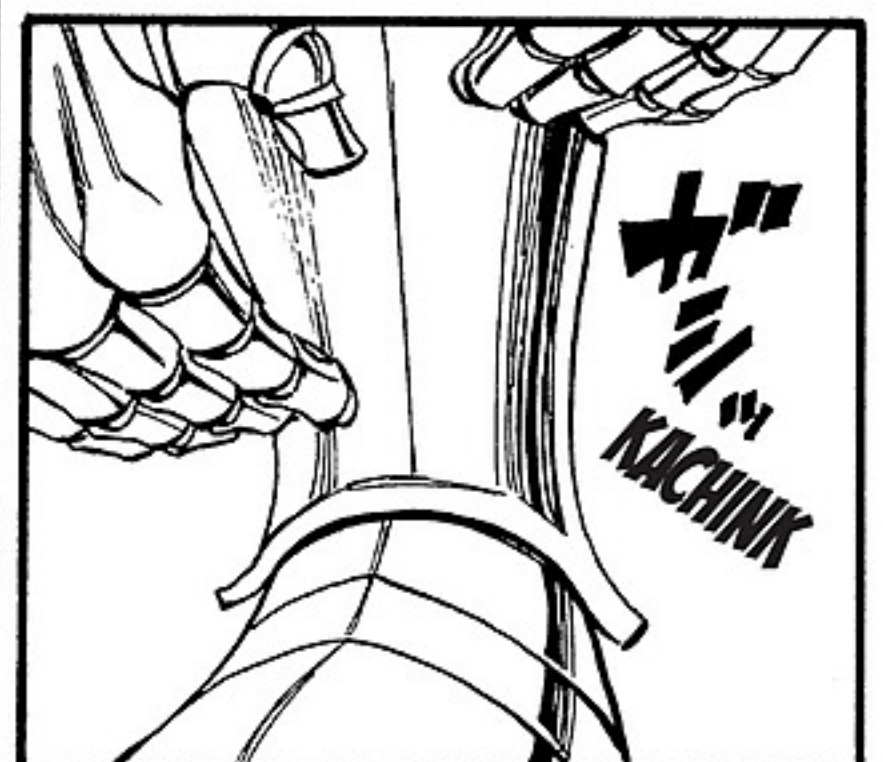
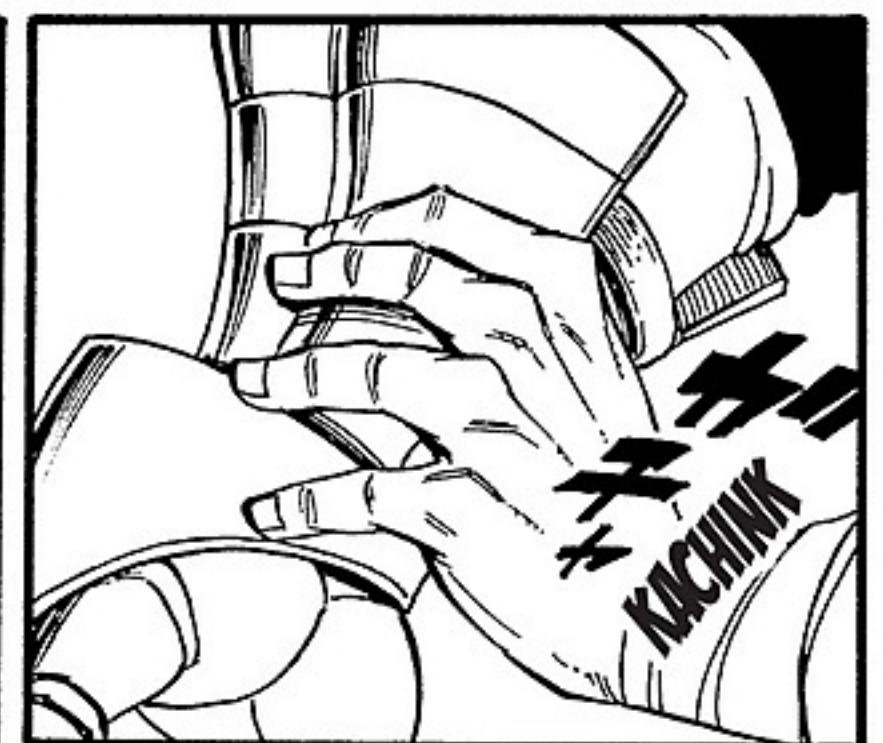
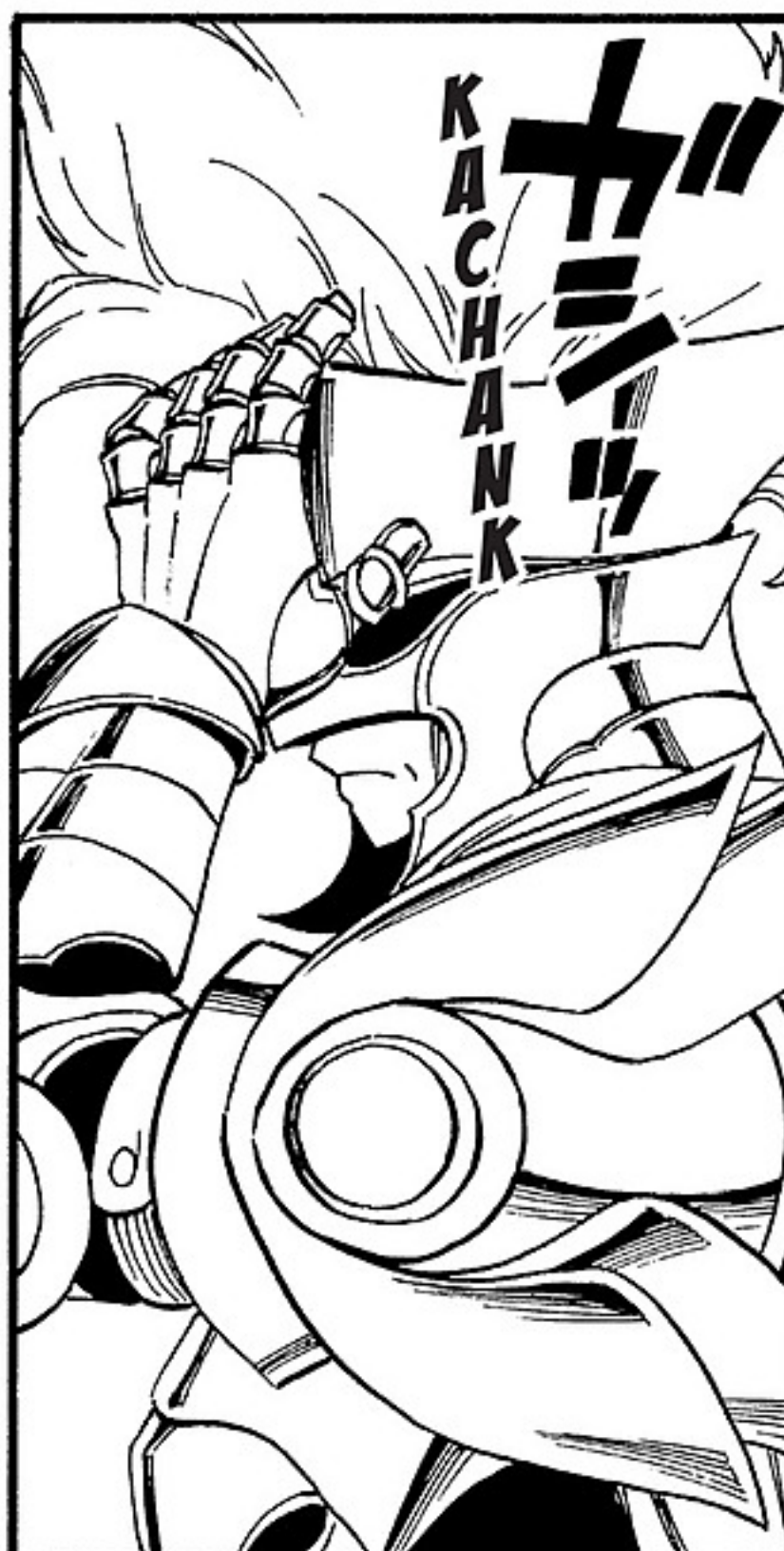


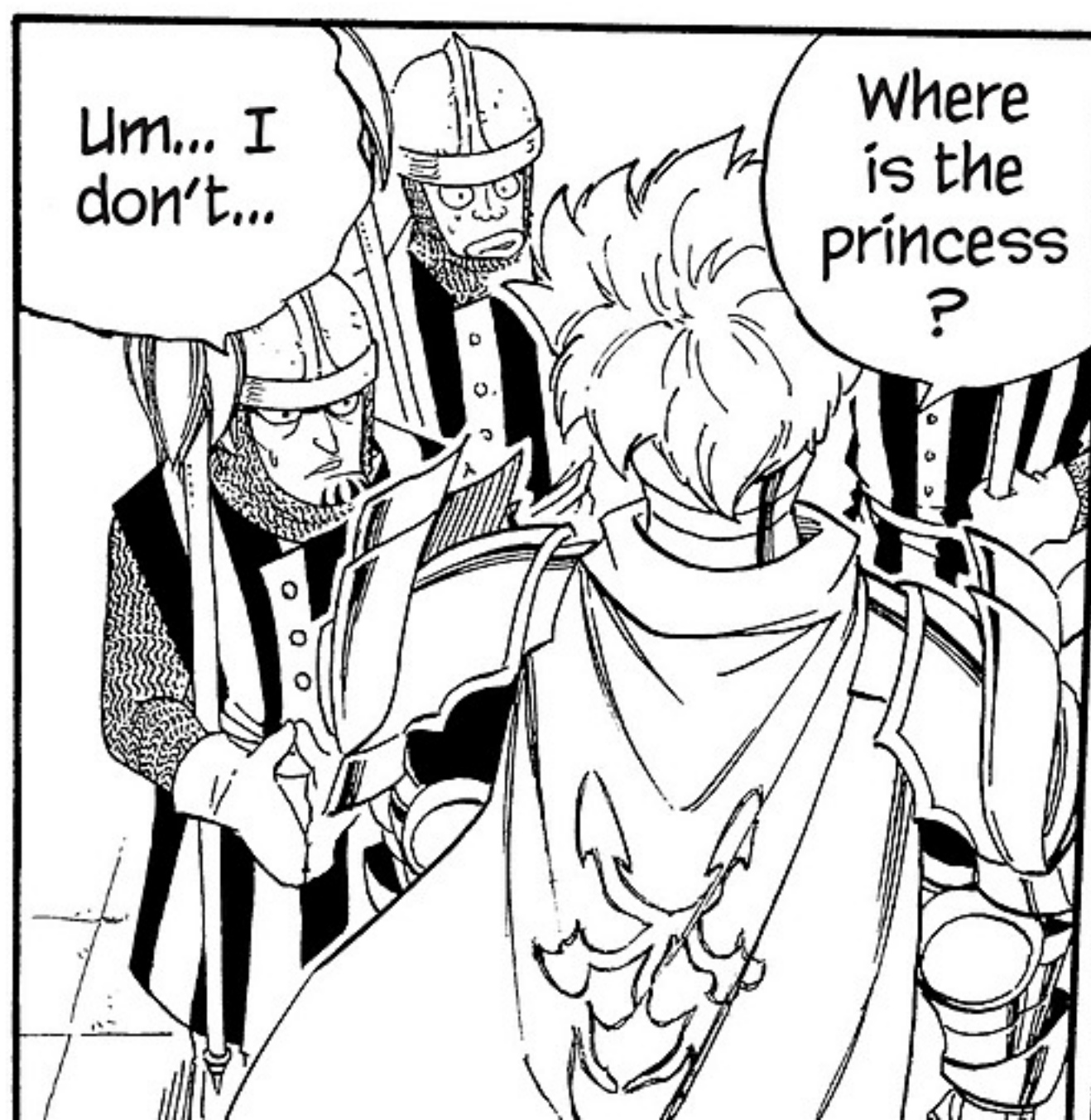
**REGULUS
IMPACT
!!!!**

EXSHEEN



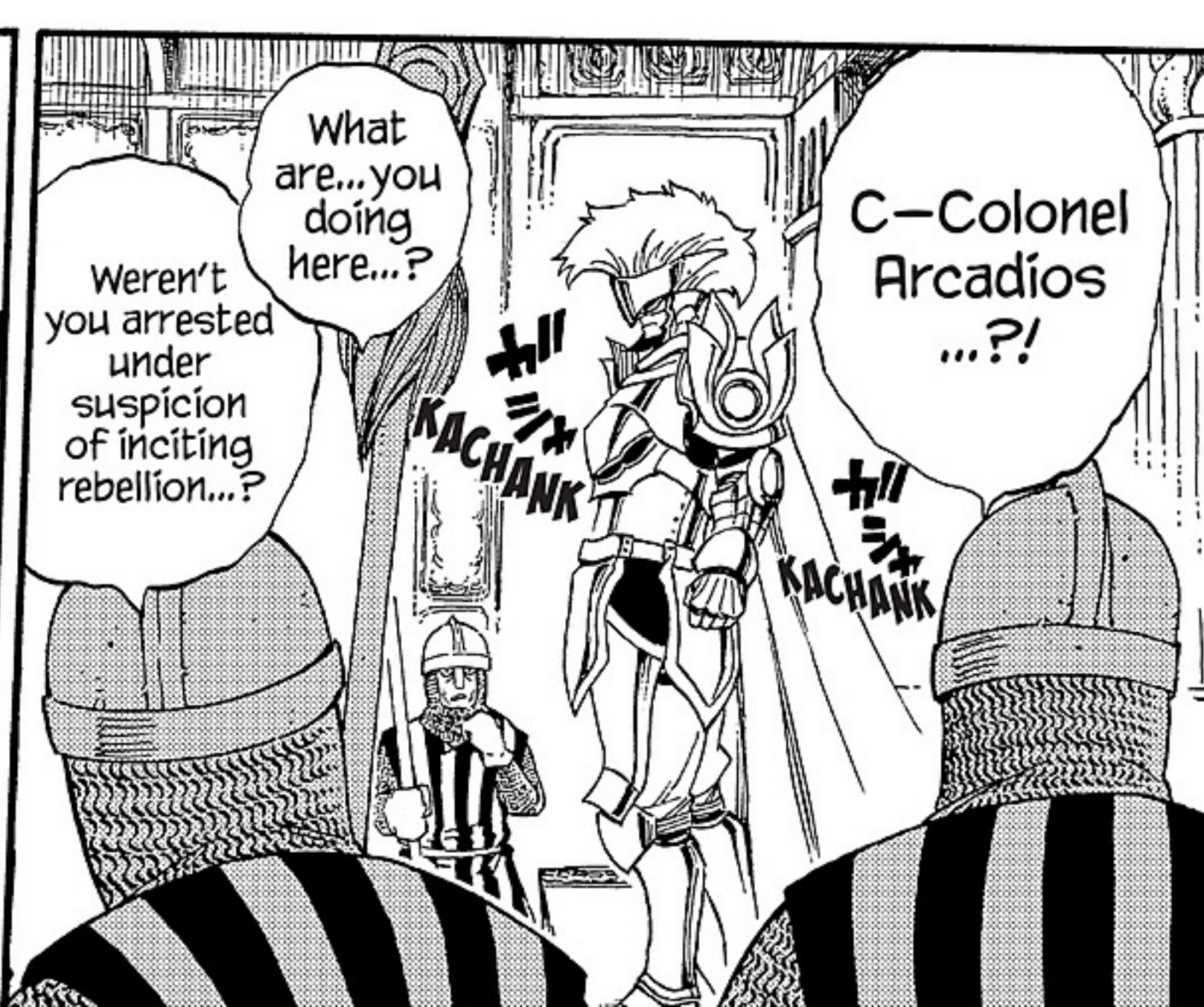






Um... I don't...

Where is the princess?



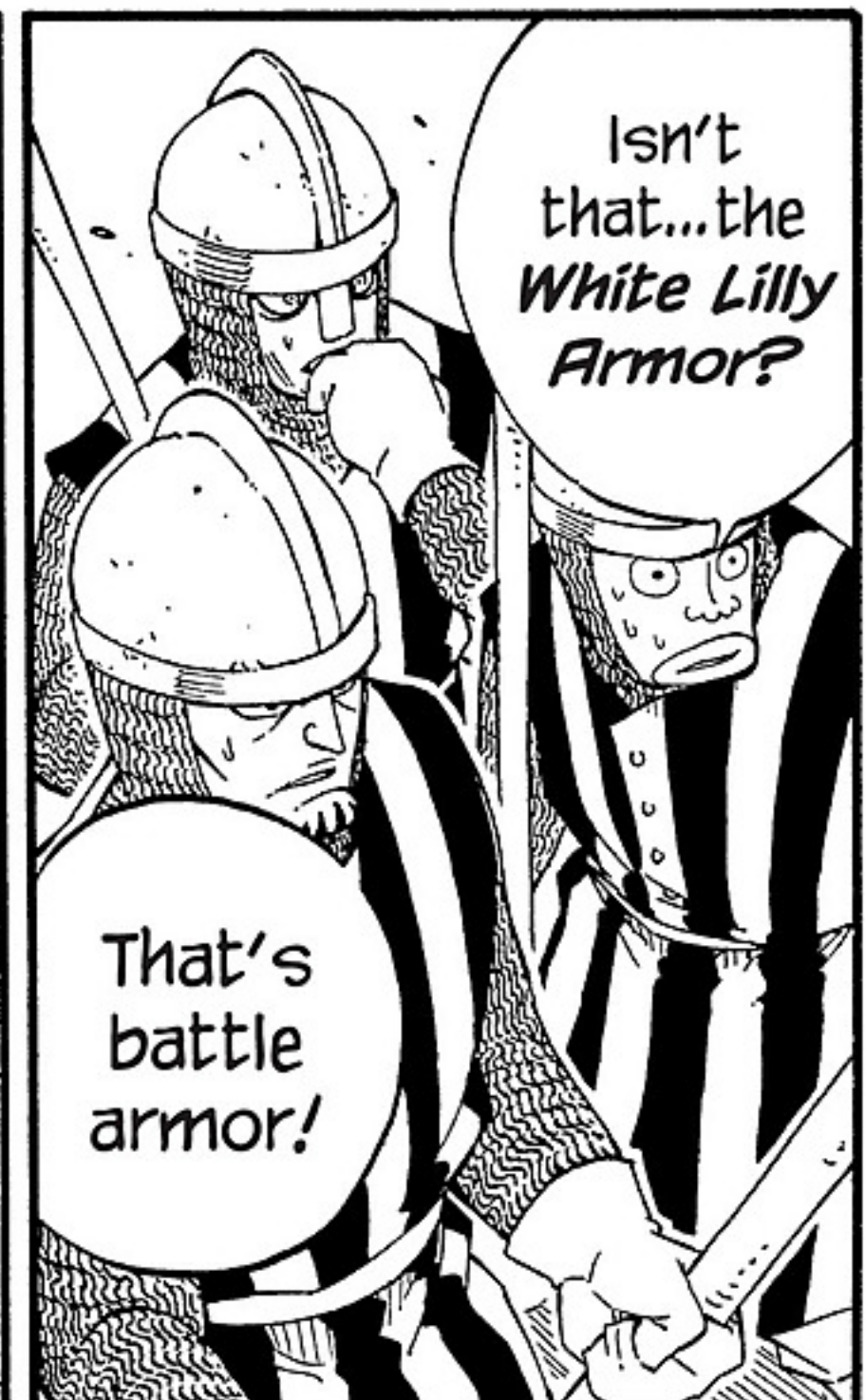
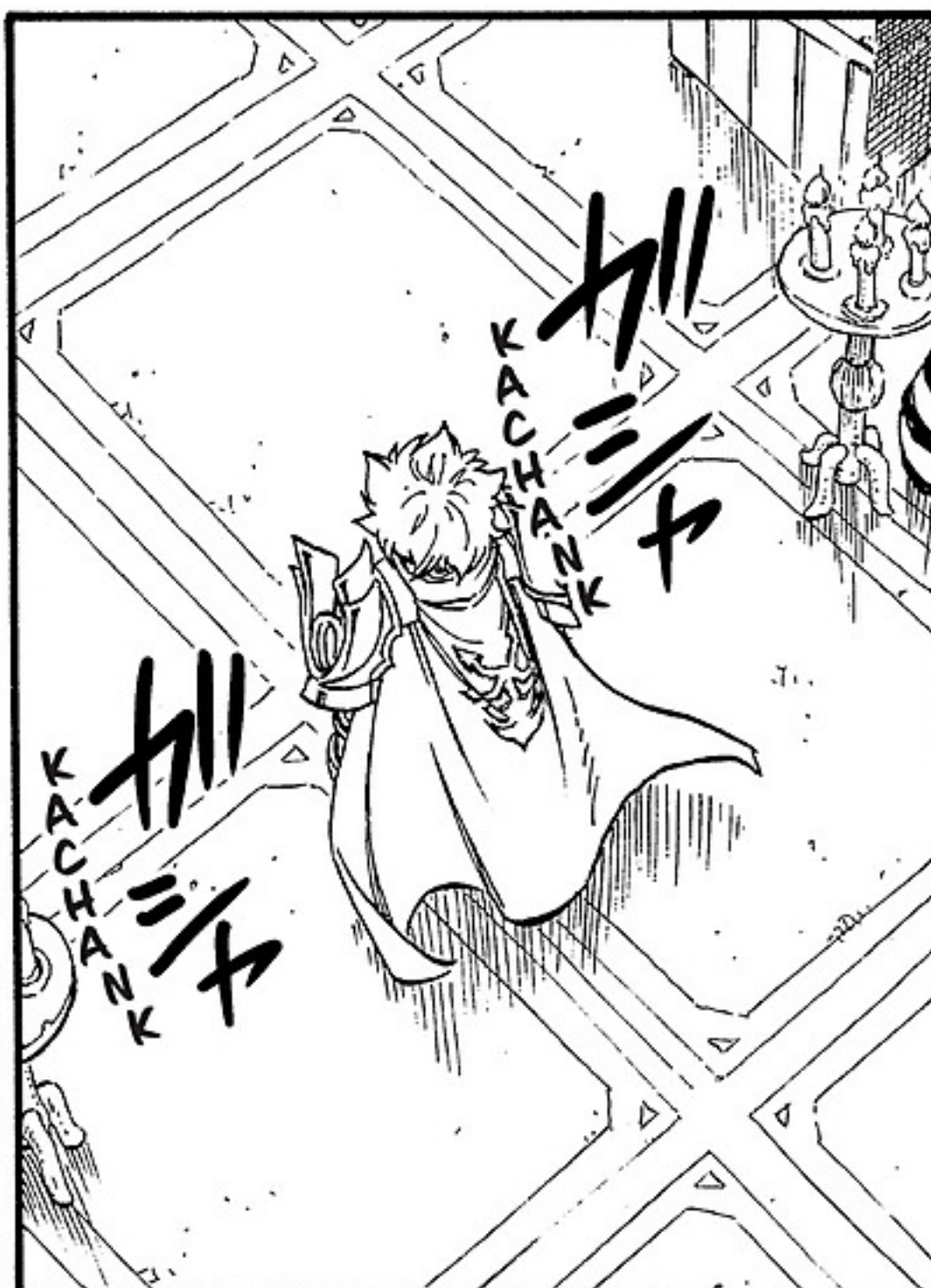
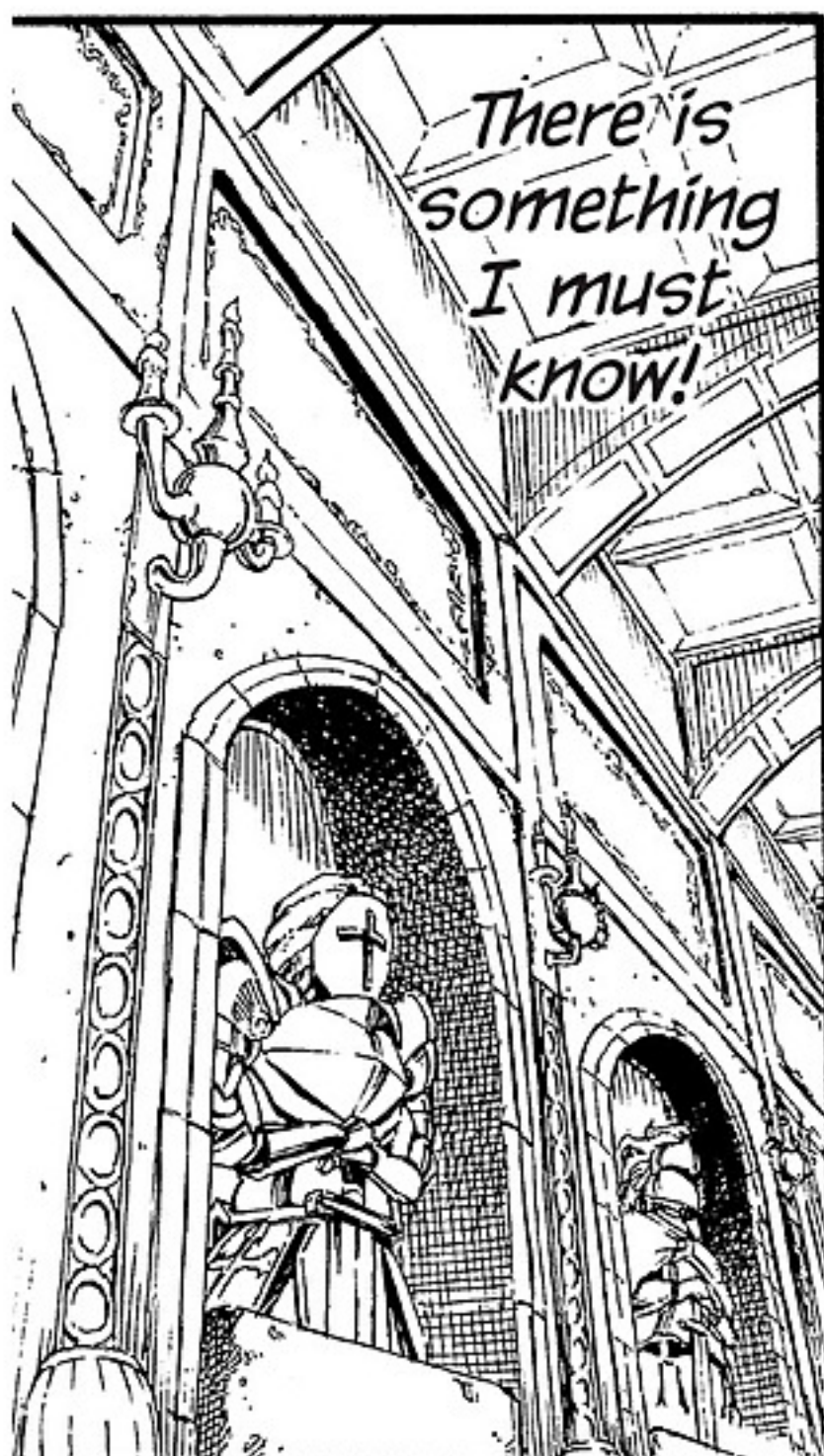
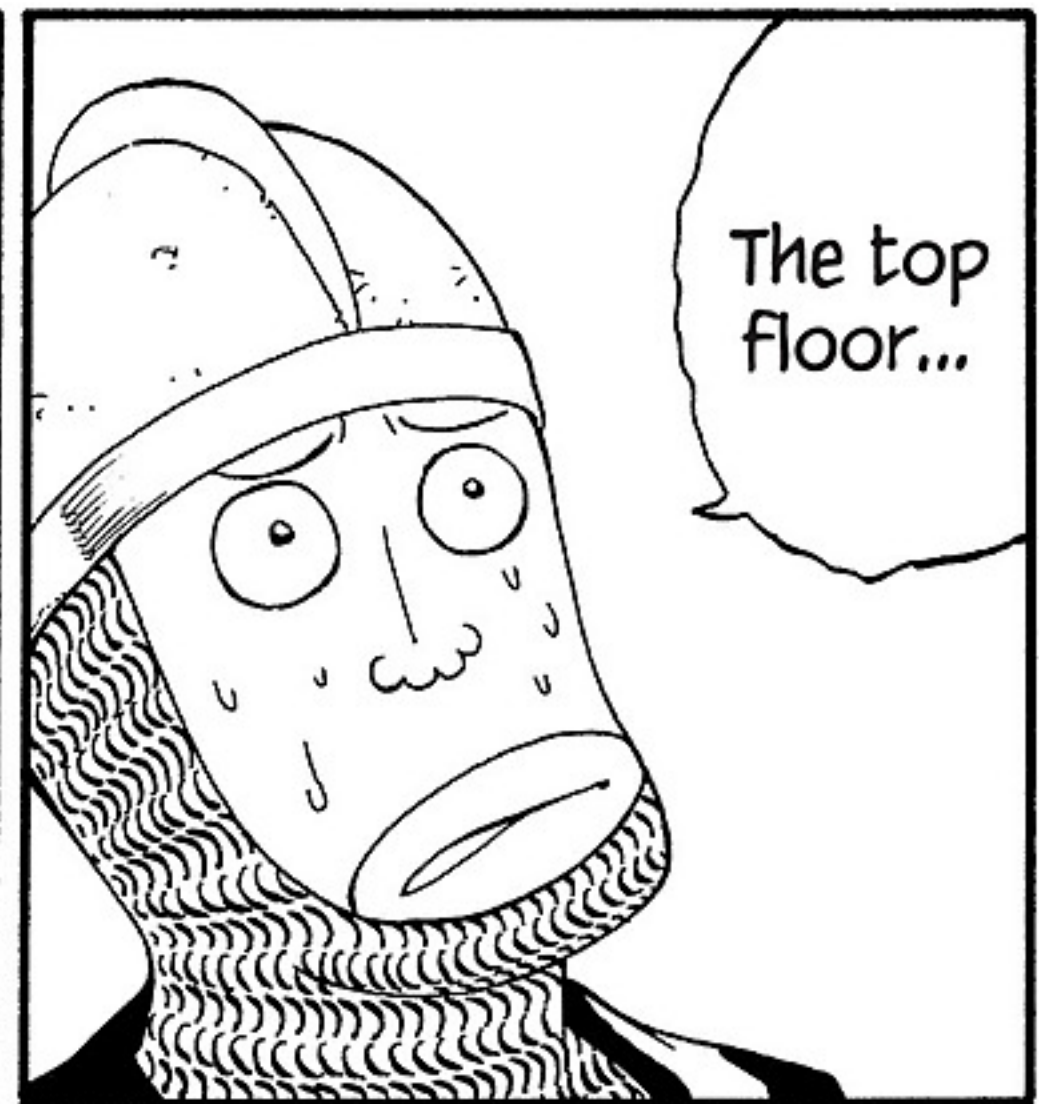
Weren't you arrested under suspicion of inciting rebellion...?

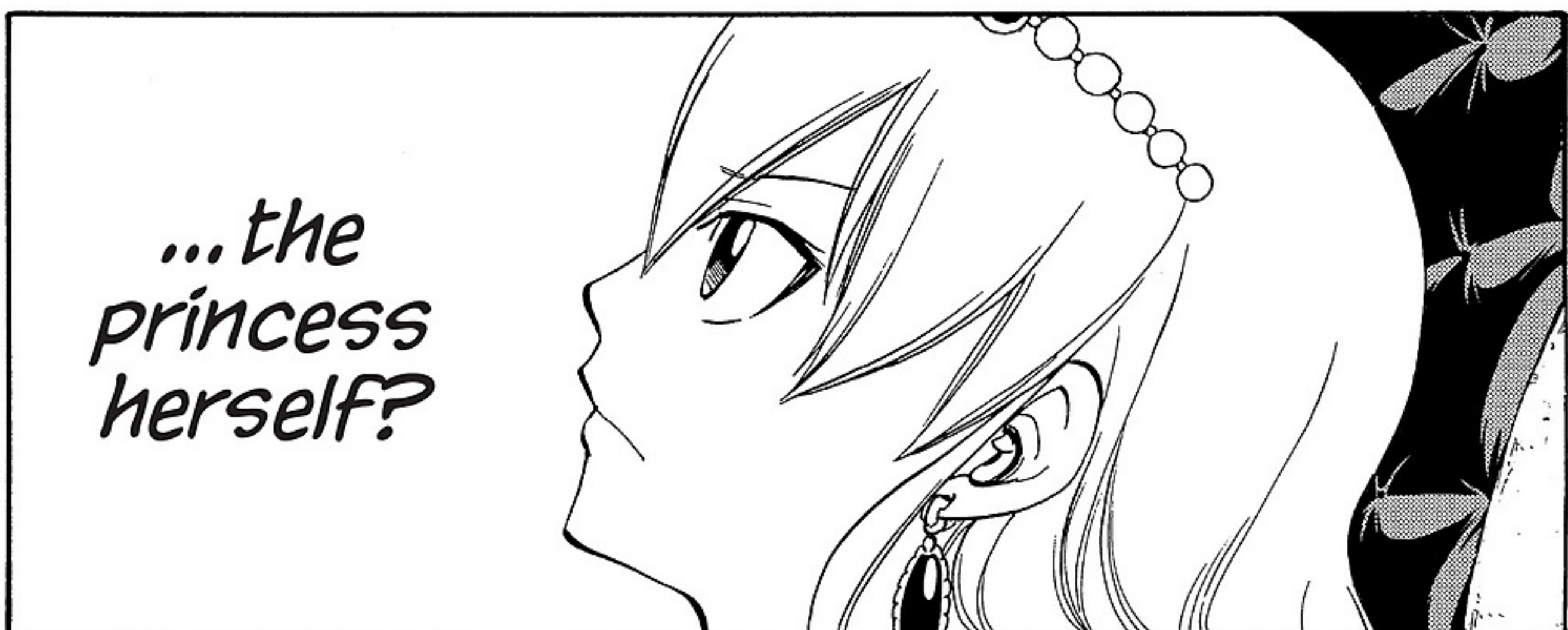
What are...you doing here...?

C-Colonel Arcadiós ...?!

KACHANK

KACHANK





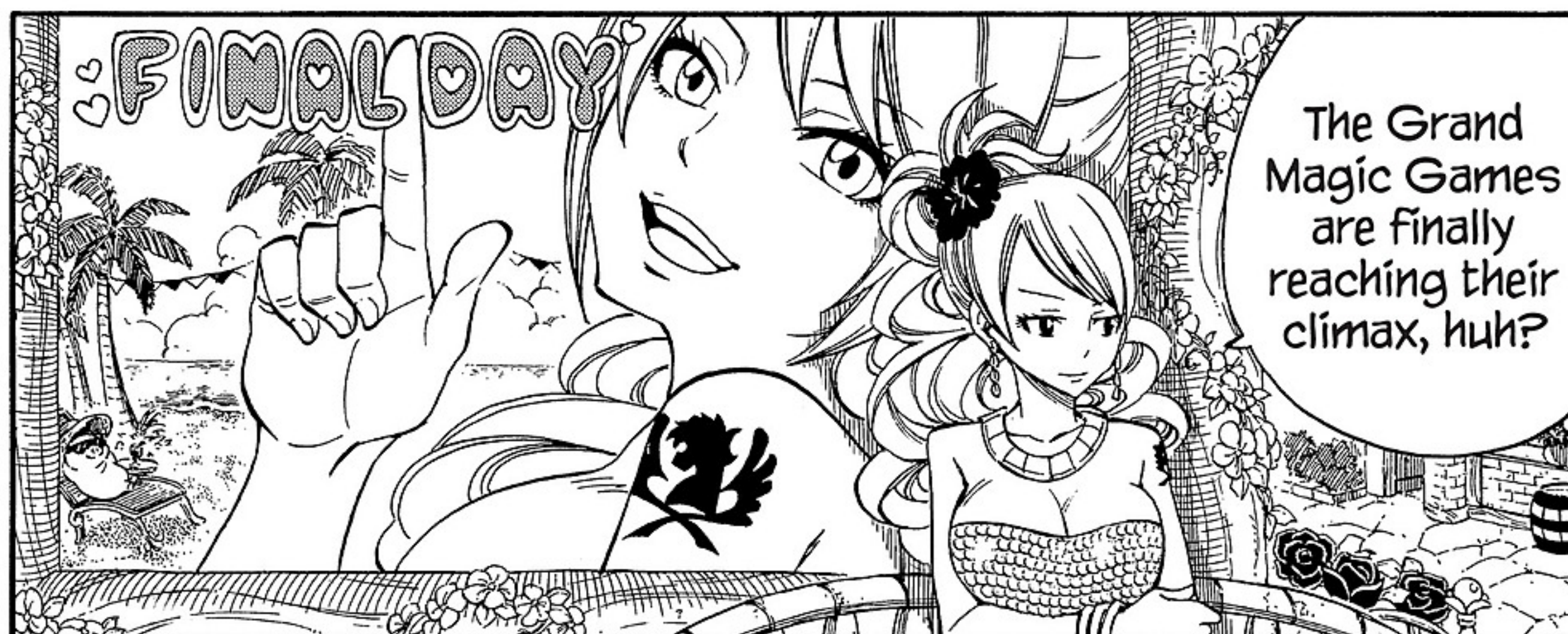
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

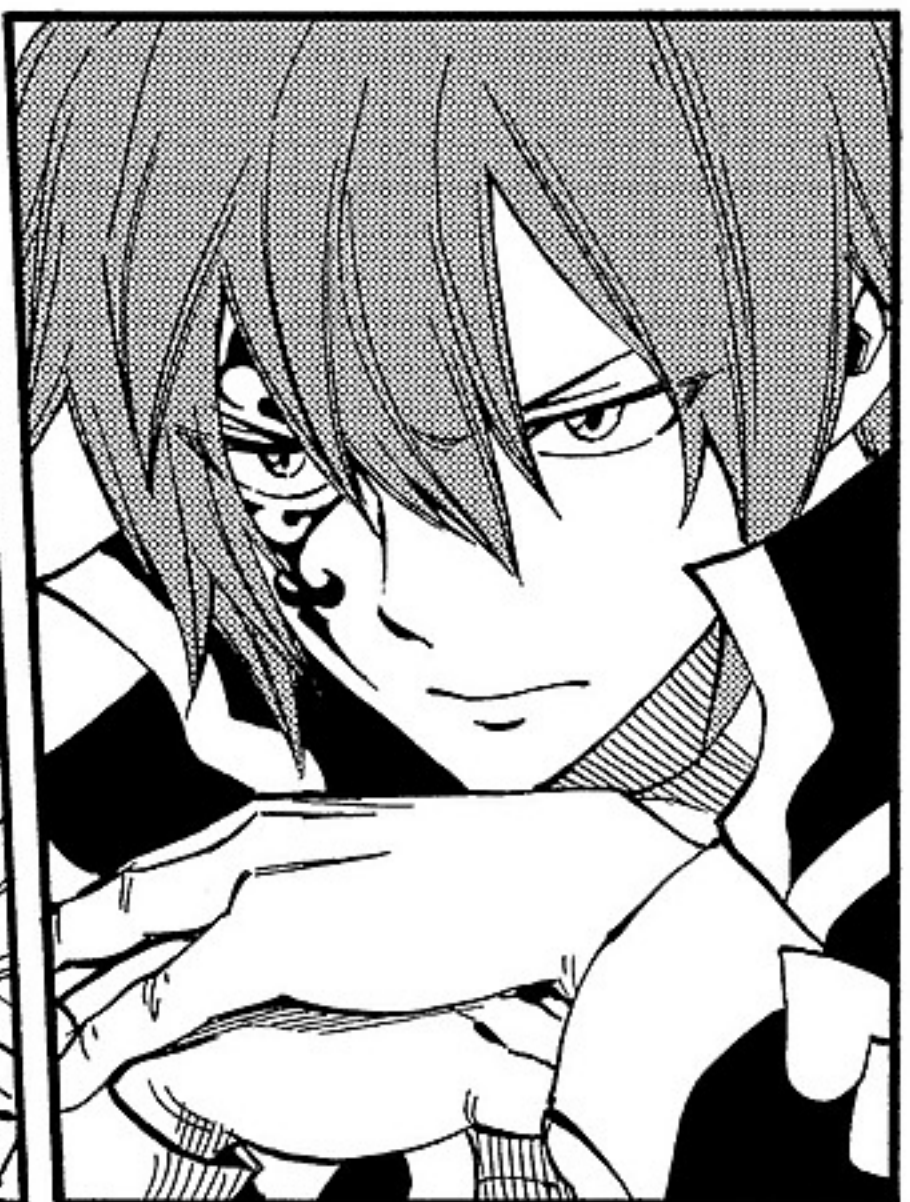
Grand Magic Games Final Day Interim Results

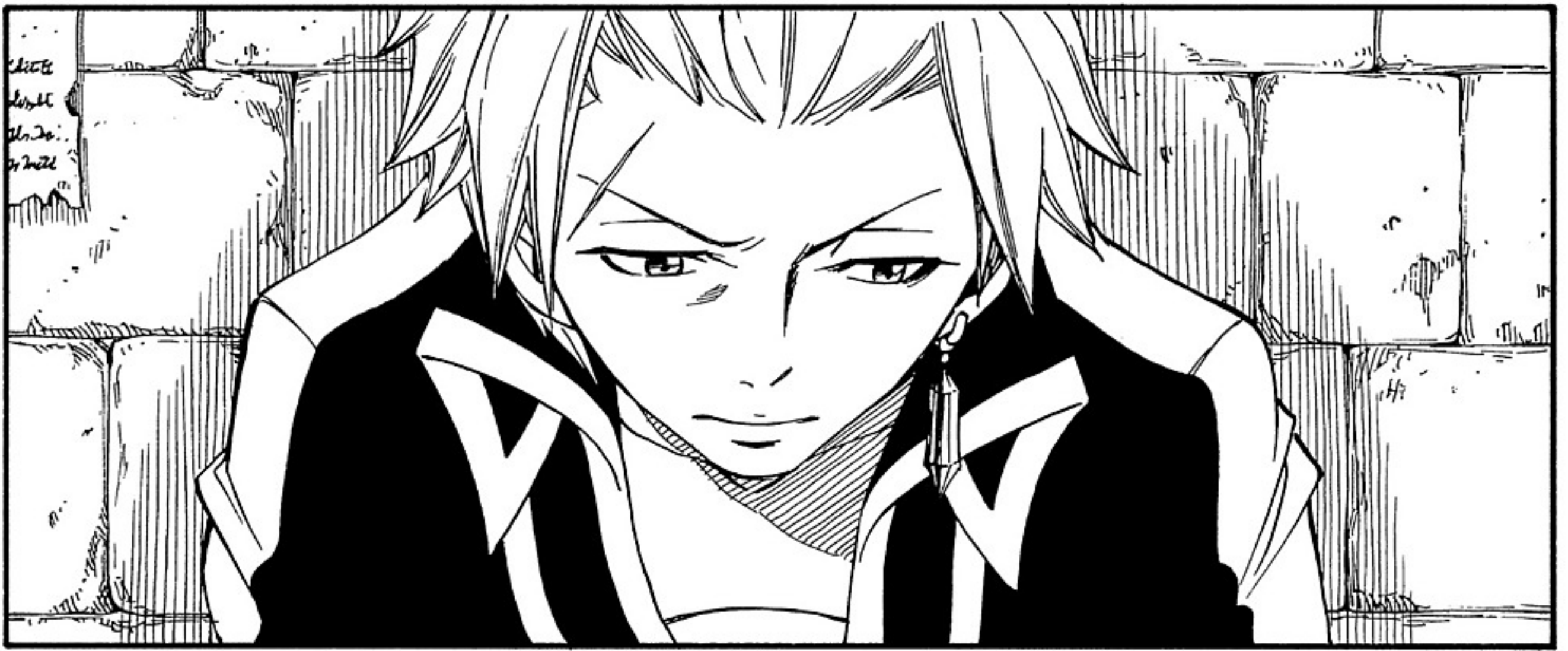
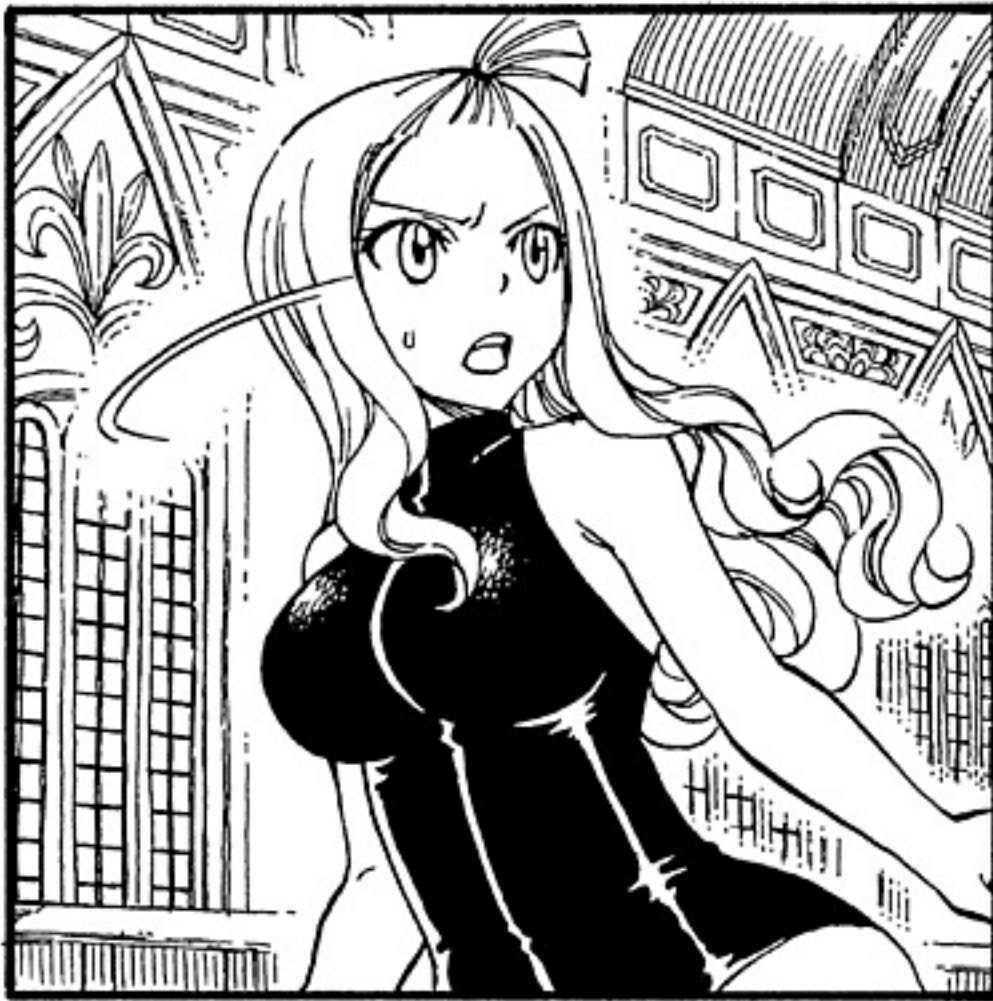


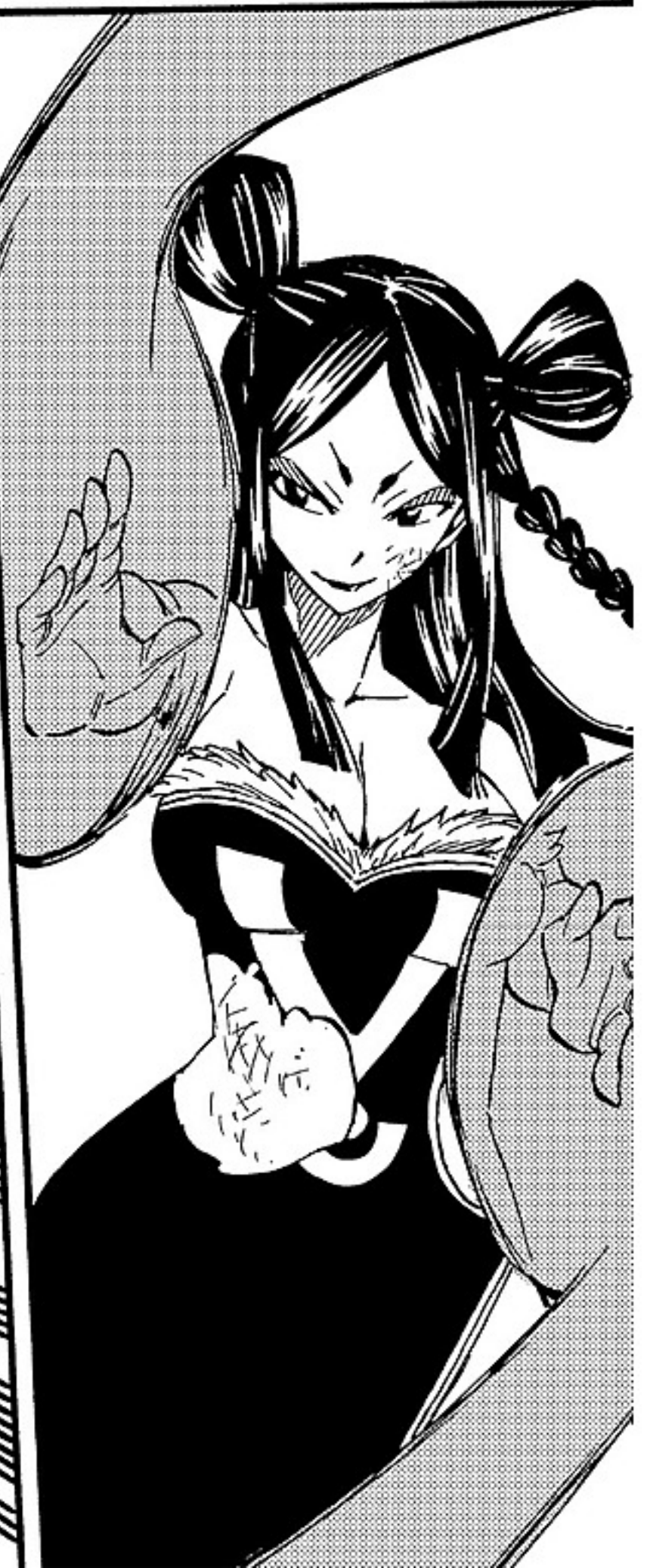
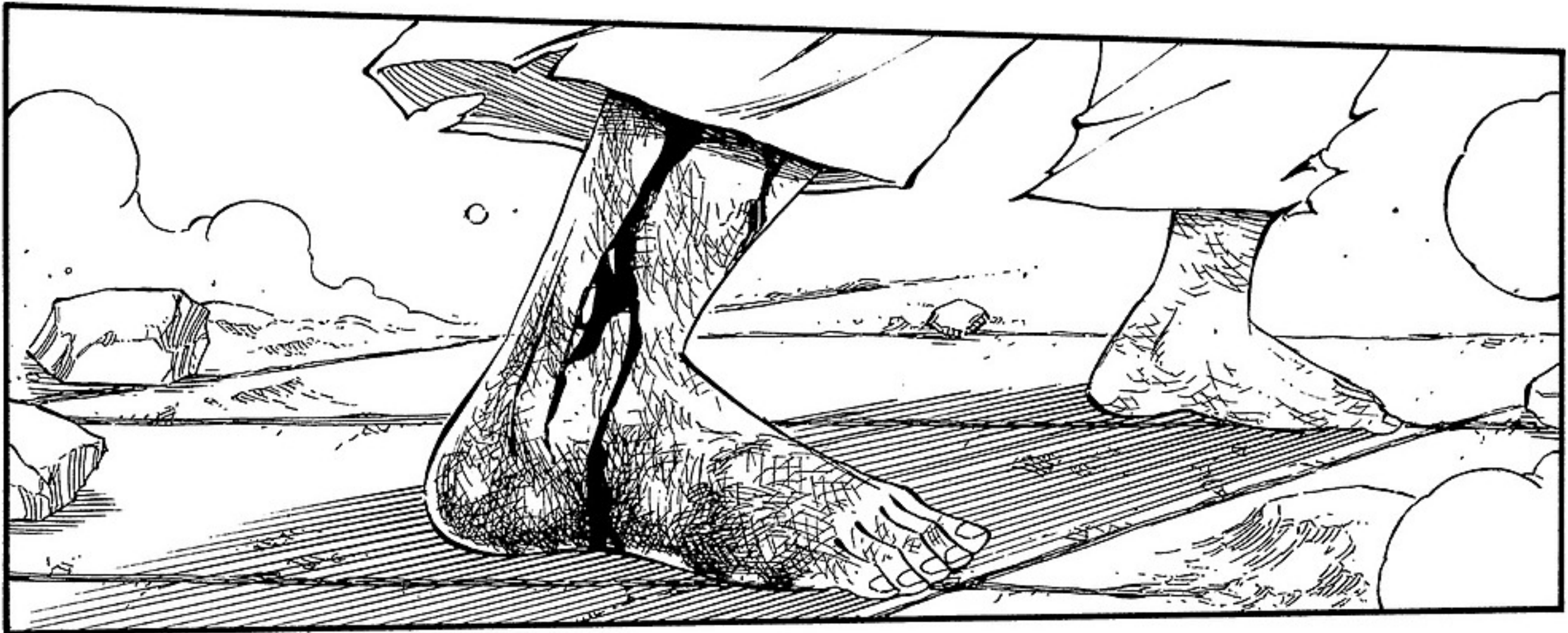
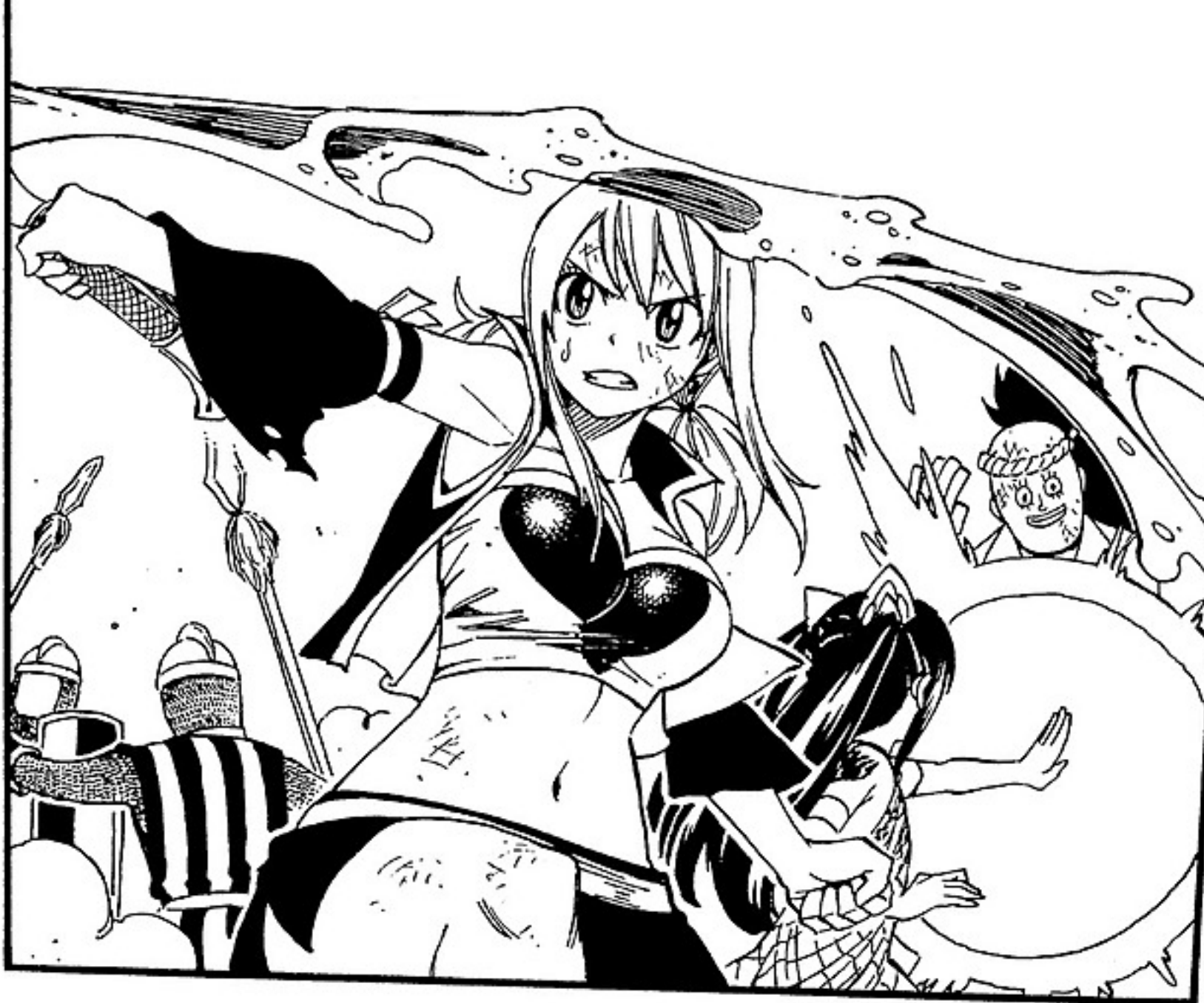
		Remaining Members	
		Leader	Normal
1. Saber Tooth	55p	▼ x1	○ x2
2. Fairy Tail	51p	▼ x1	○ x4
3. Lamia Scale	49p	▼ x1	○ x2

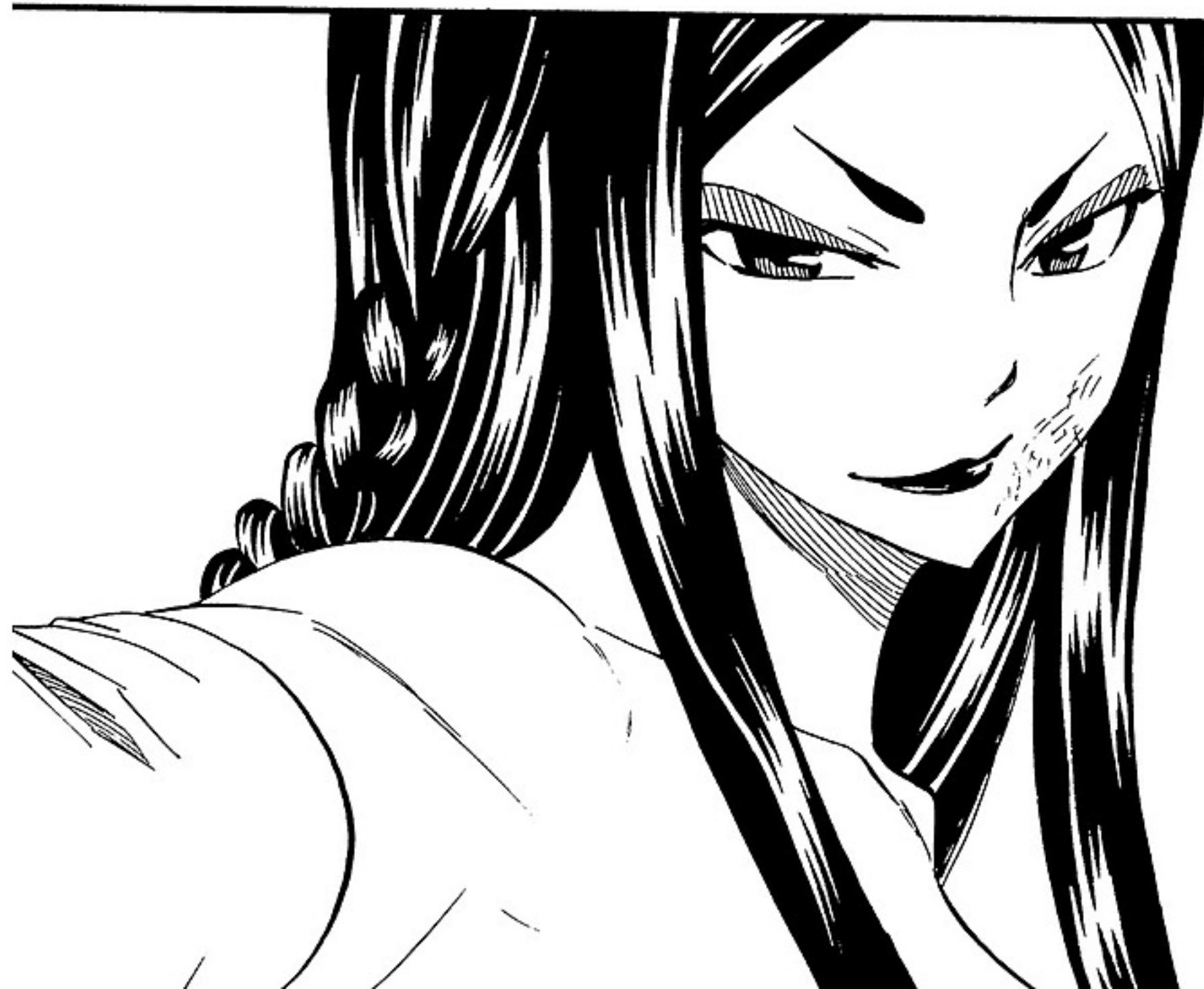


Chapter 320: Attacking Lightning

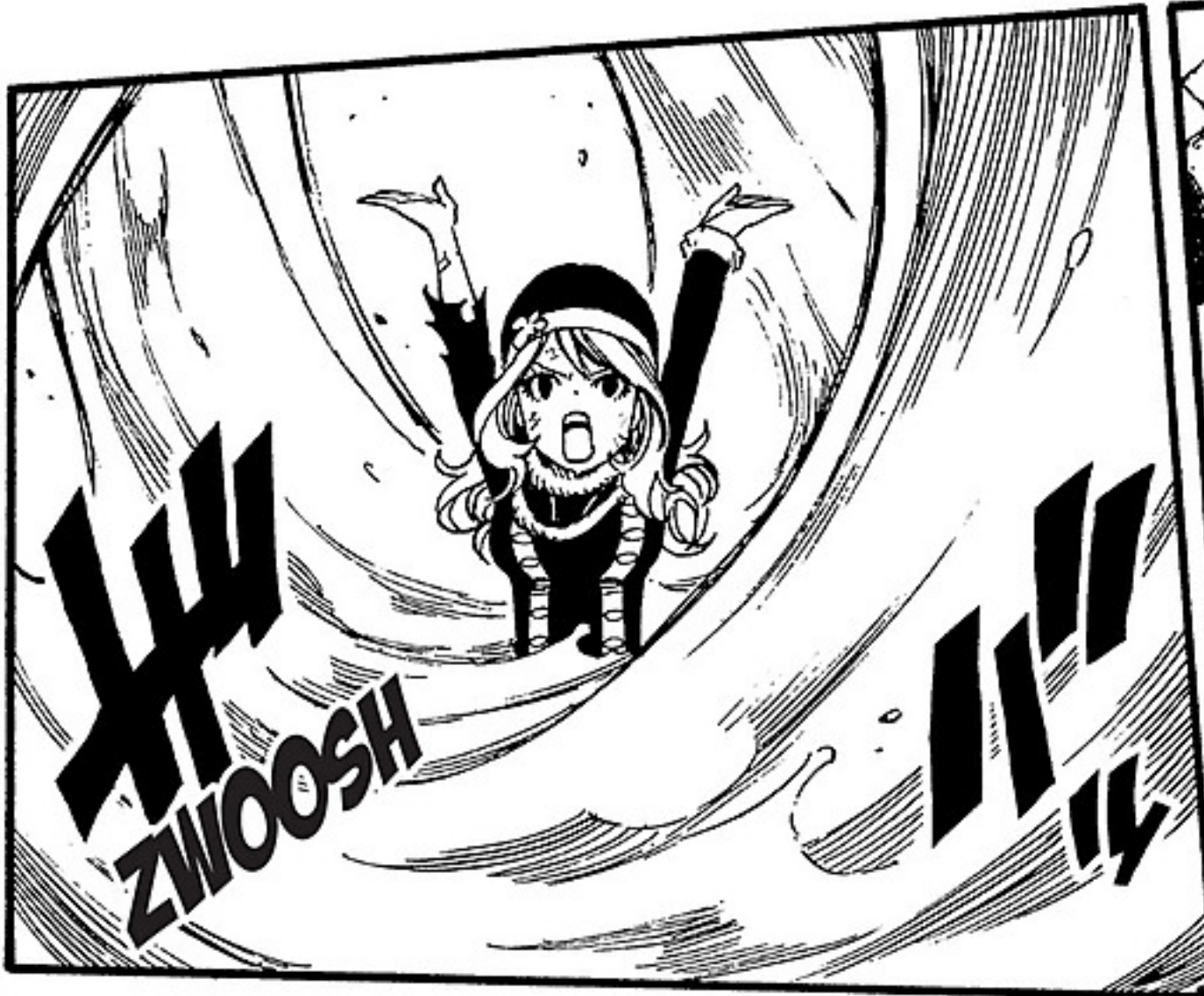


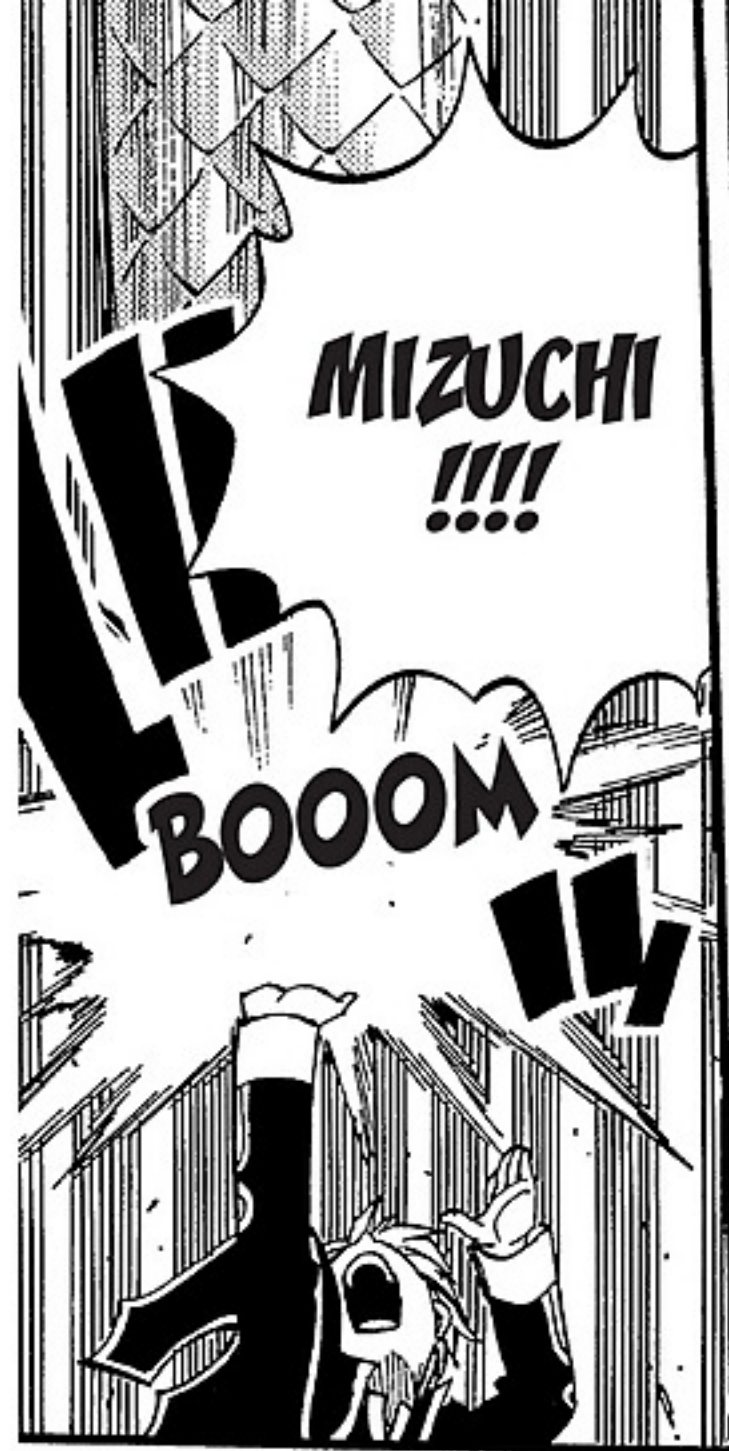






Consider this
the public
execution of
Titania the
Fairy Queen.





MIZUCHI
!!!!

BOOOM



...and
that's
playing
dirty
!!

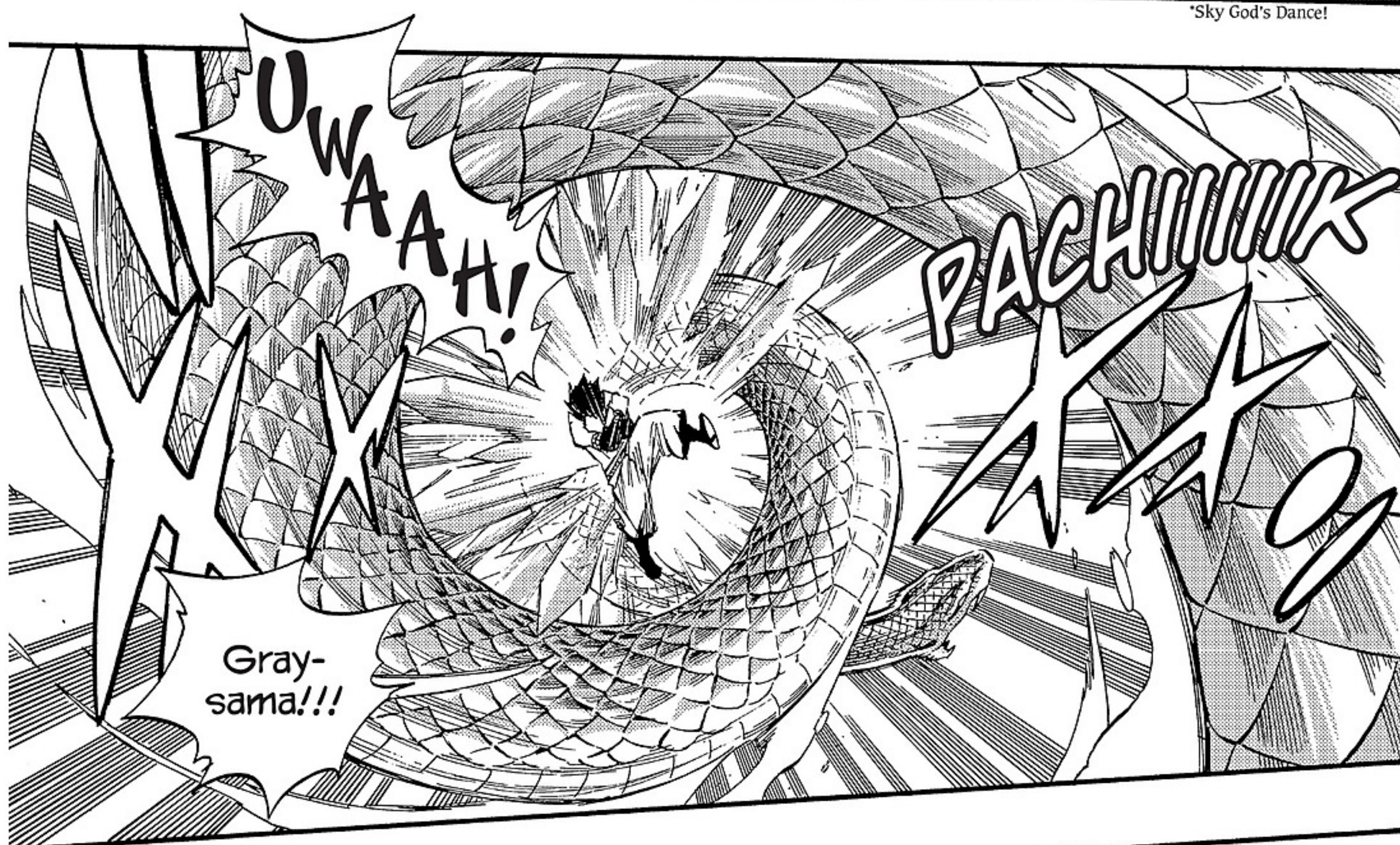
But he
attacked
using
Juvia's
water...



Sherria,
nice!

TENJIN
NO
MAI*
!!!!

*Sky God's Dance!



Gray-
sama!!!



That
leaves
openings
we can
use!

But
they're not
working as
a team!



I never
knew Lyon-
sama was
so strong...

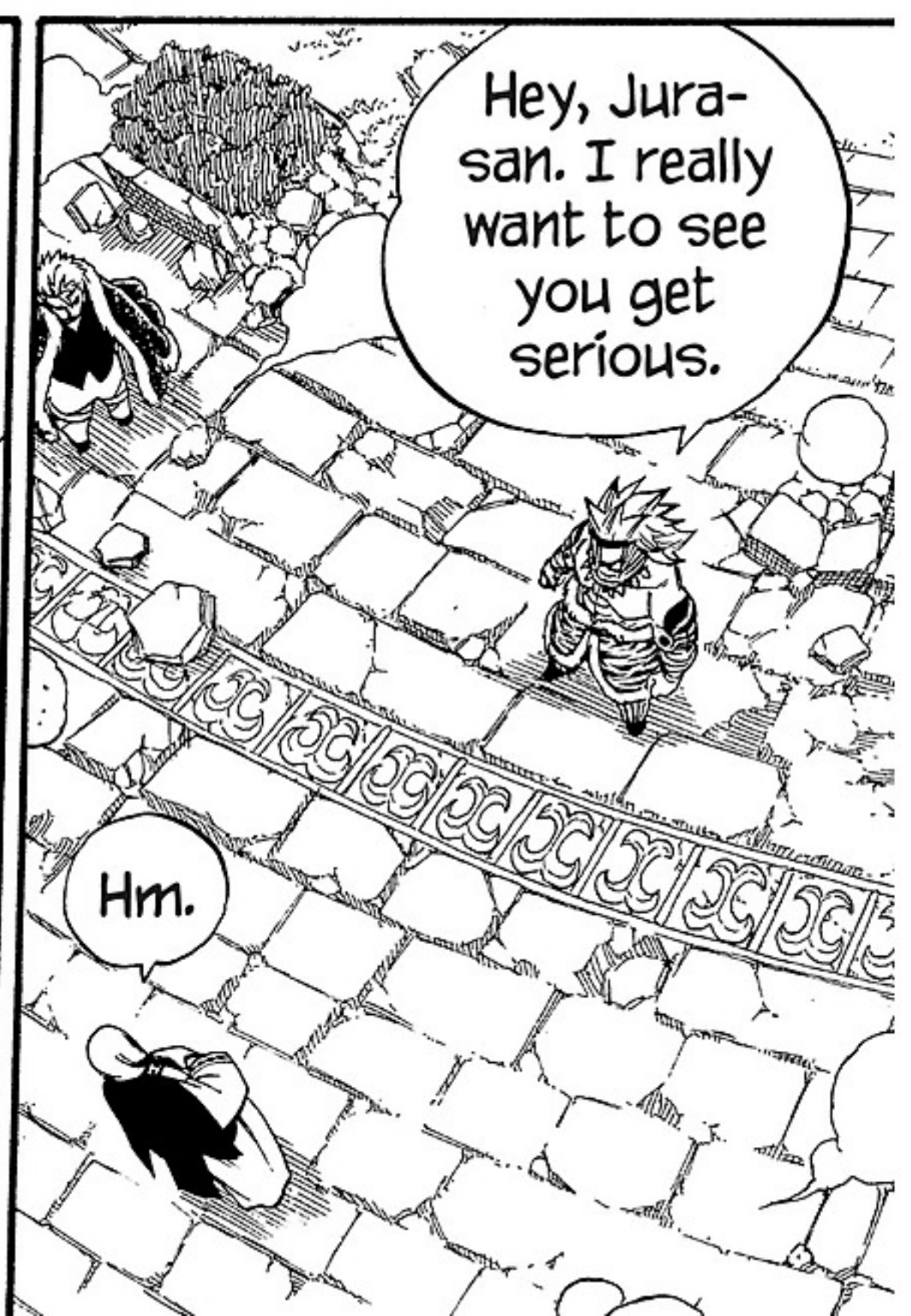
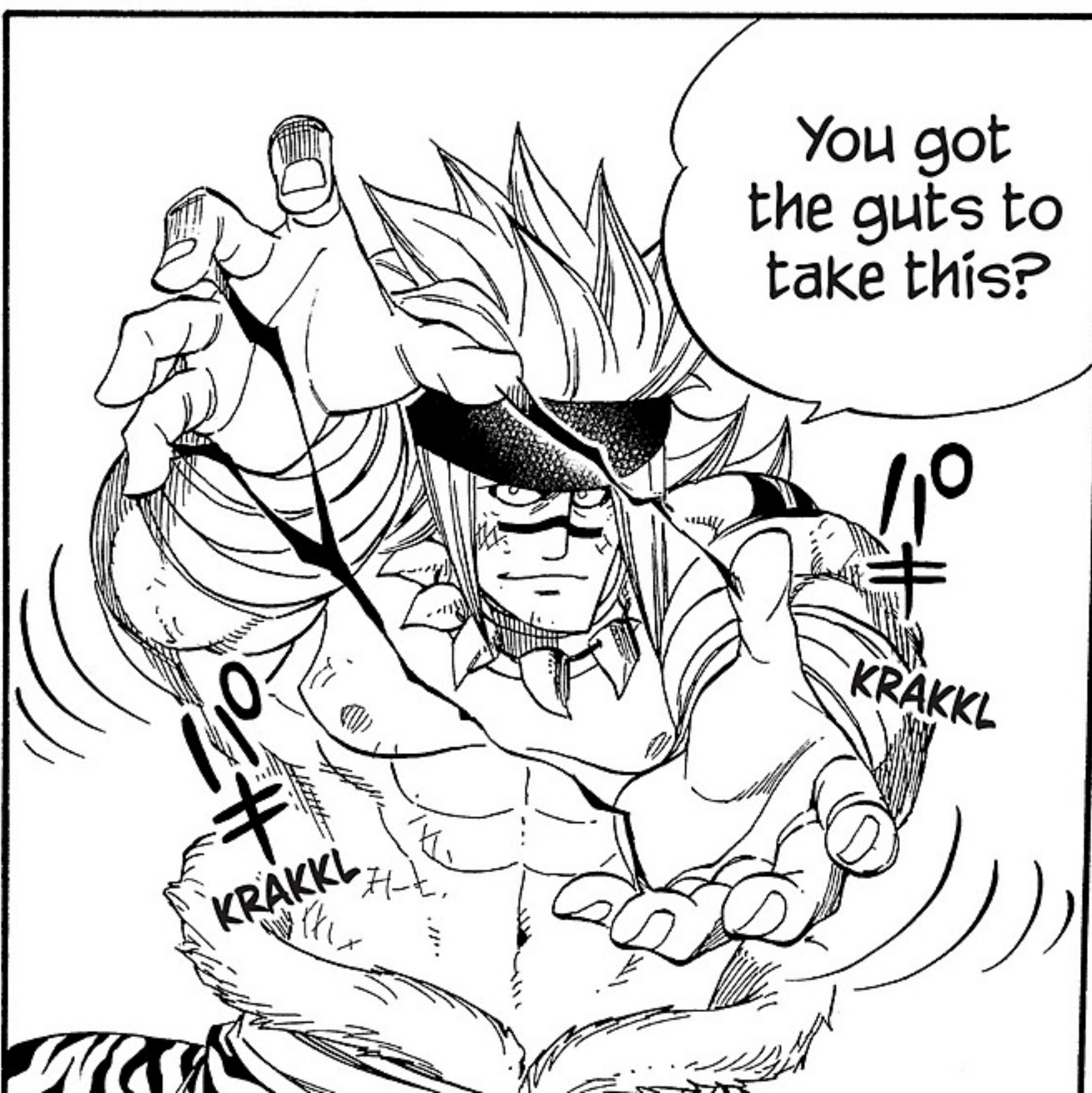
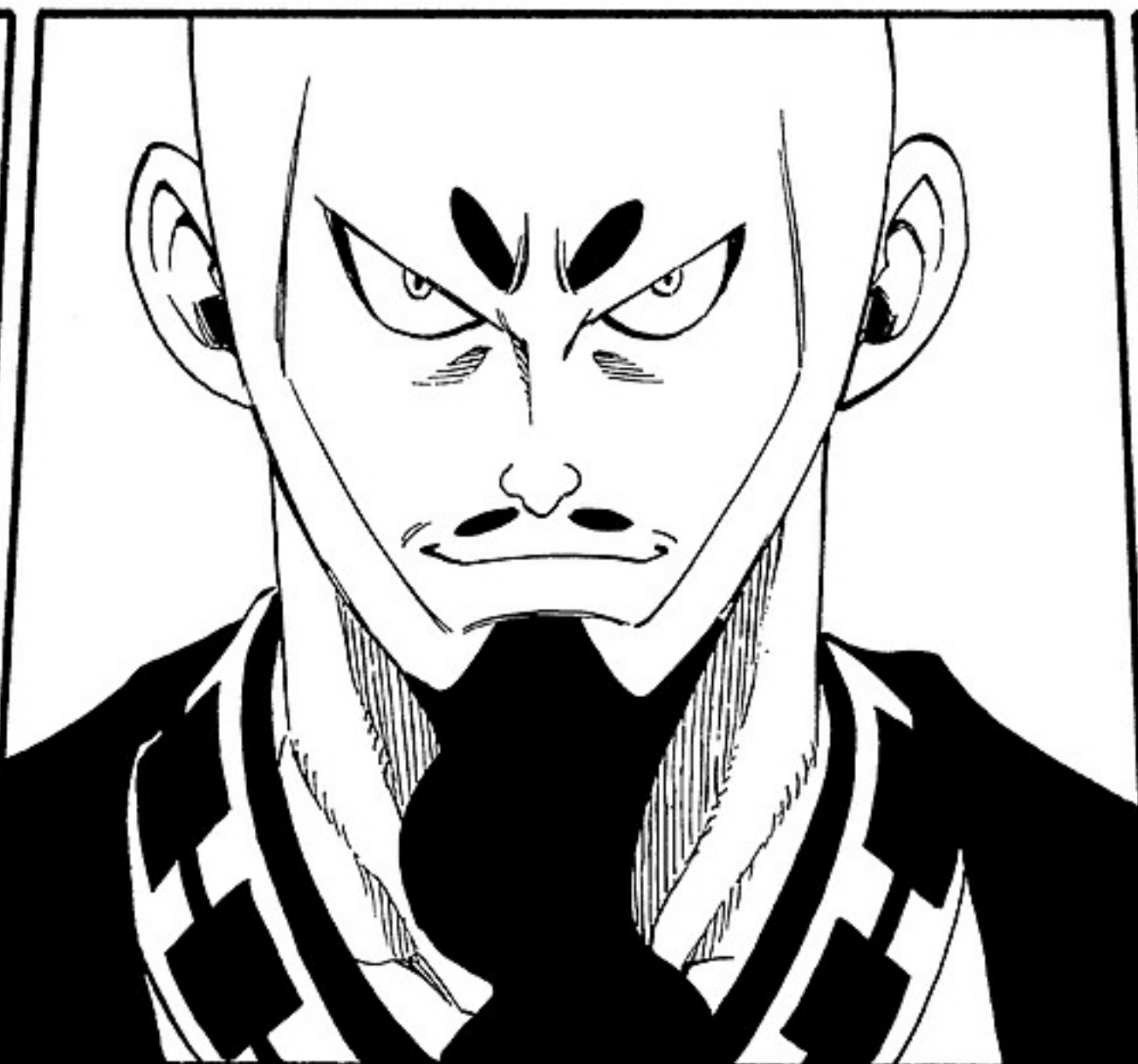
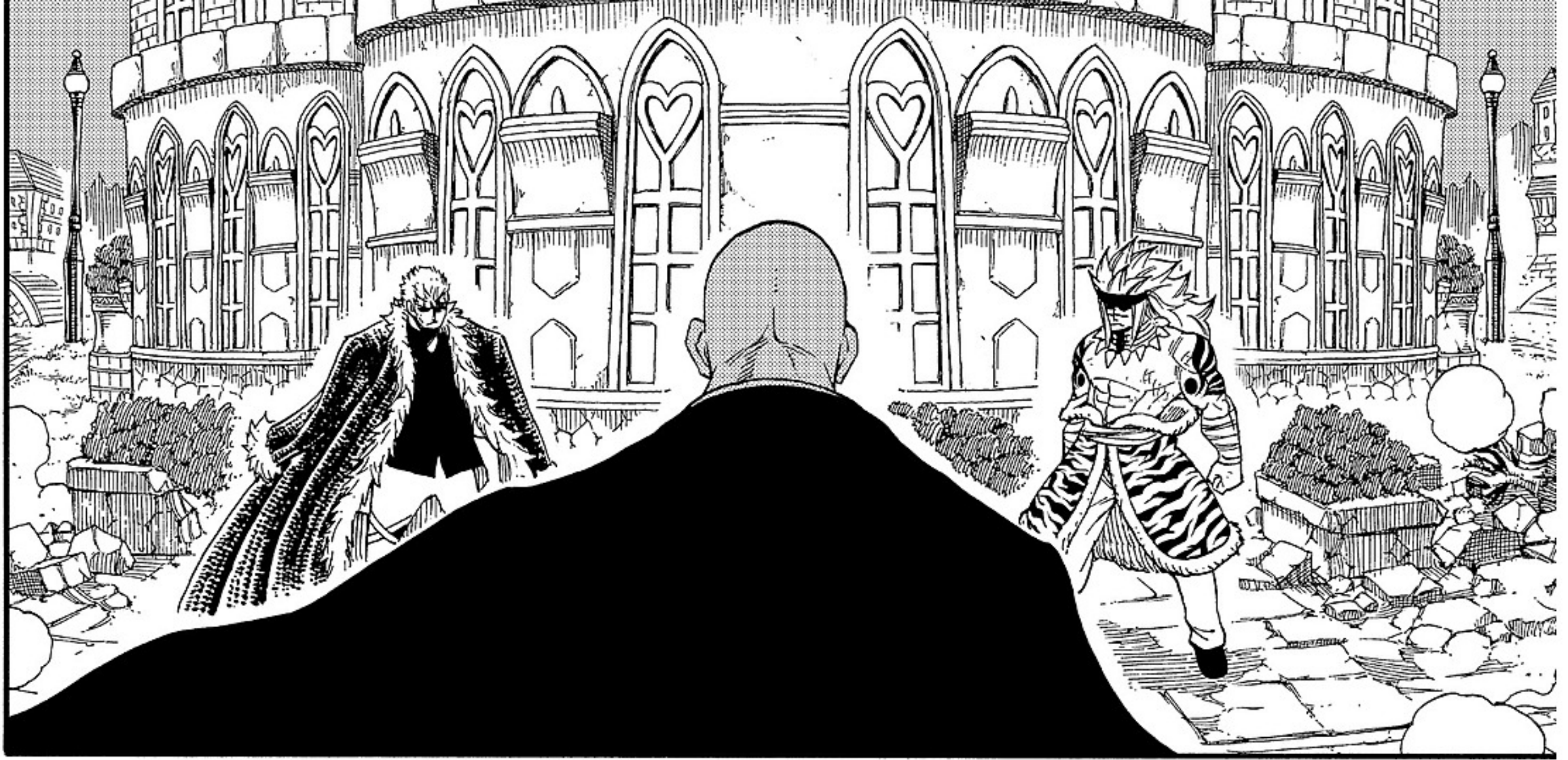


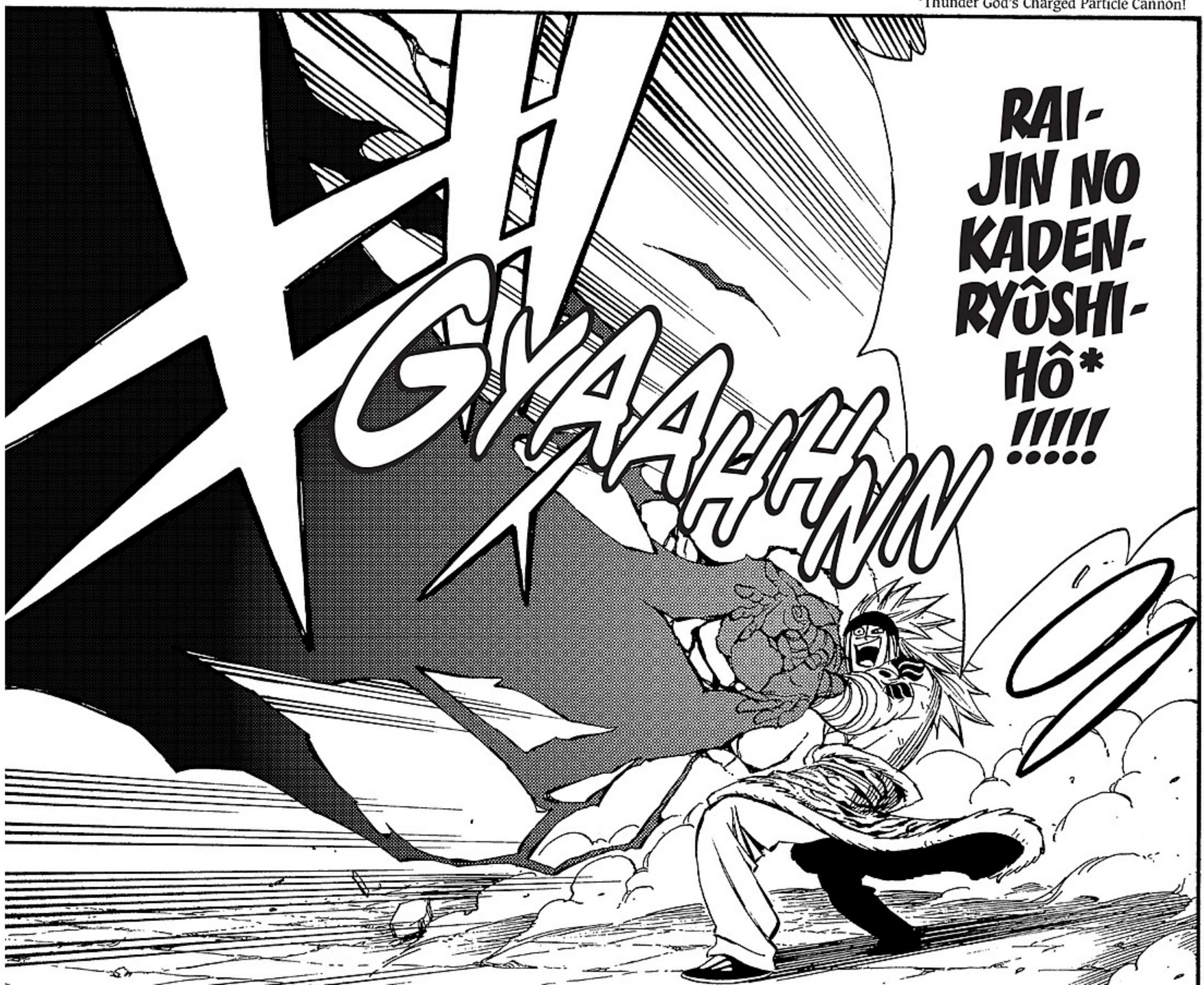
That is *your*
job! However,
you must do
it so as not
to injure her!

Not
pos-
sible
!!



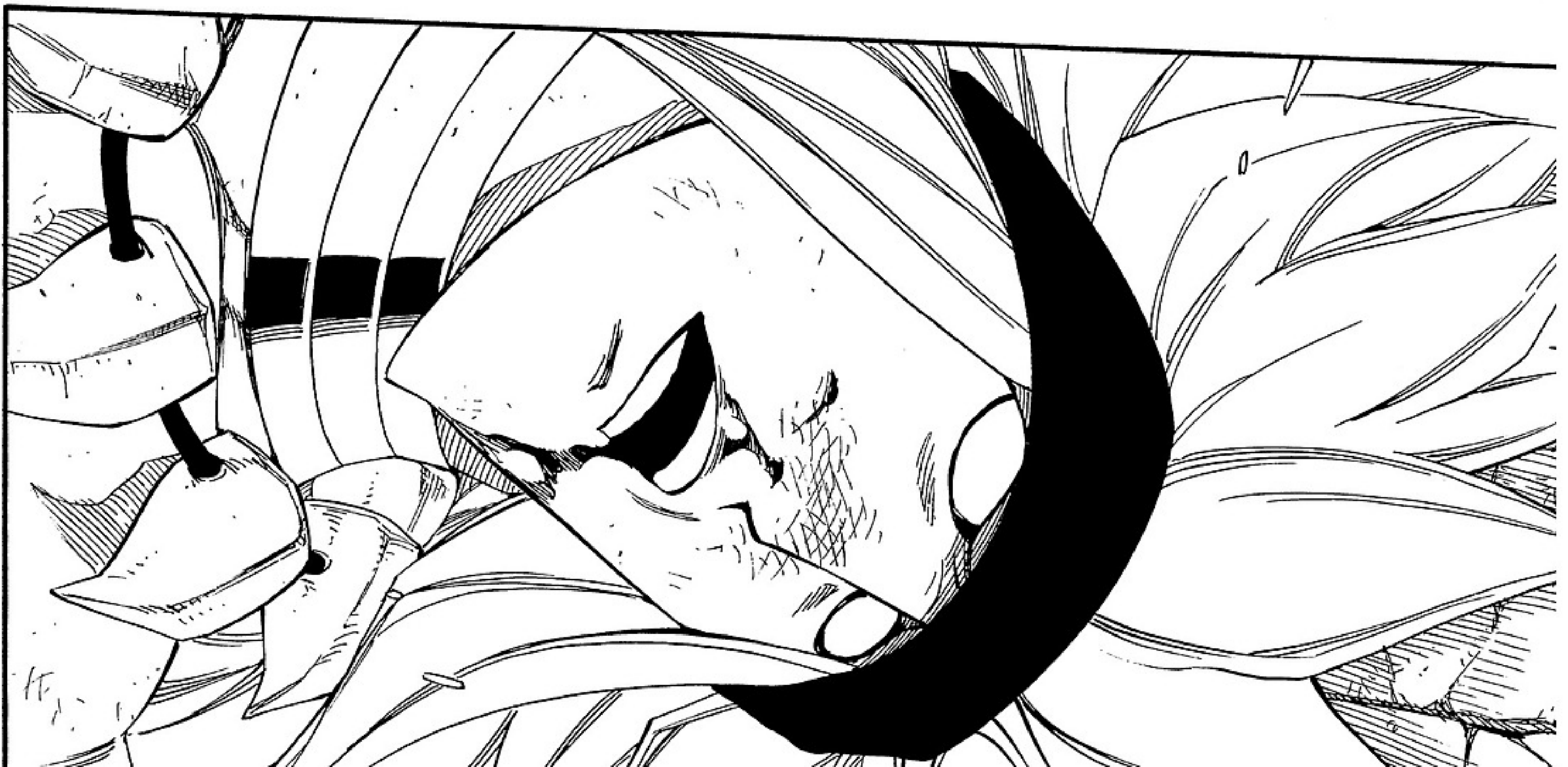
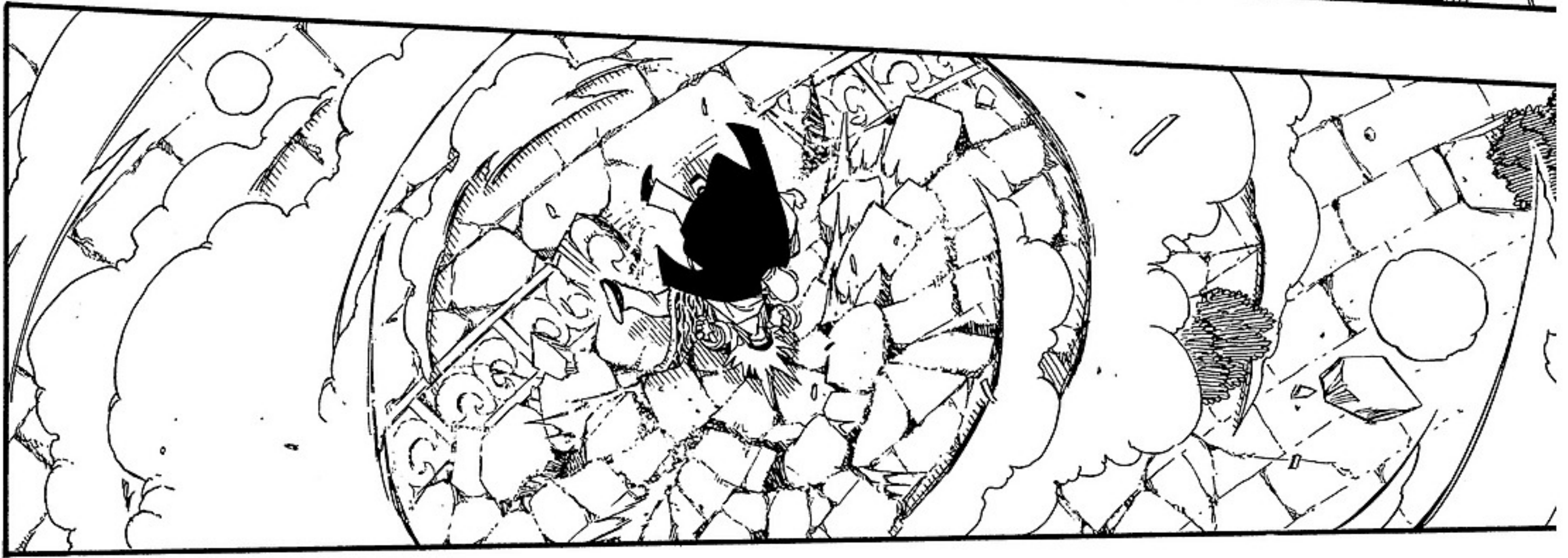
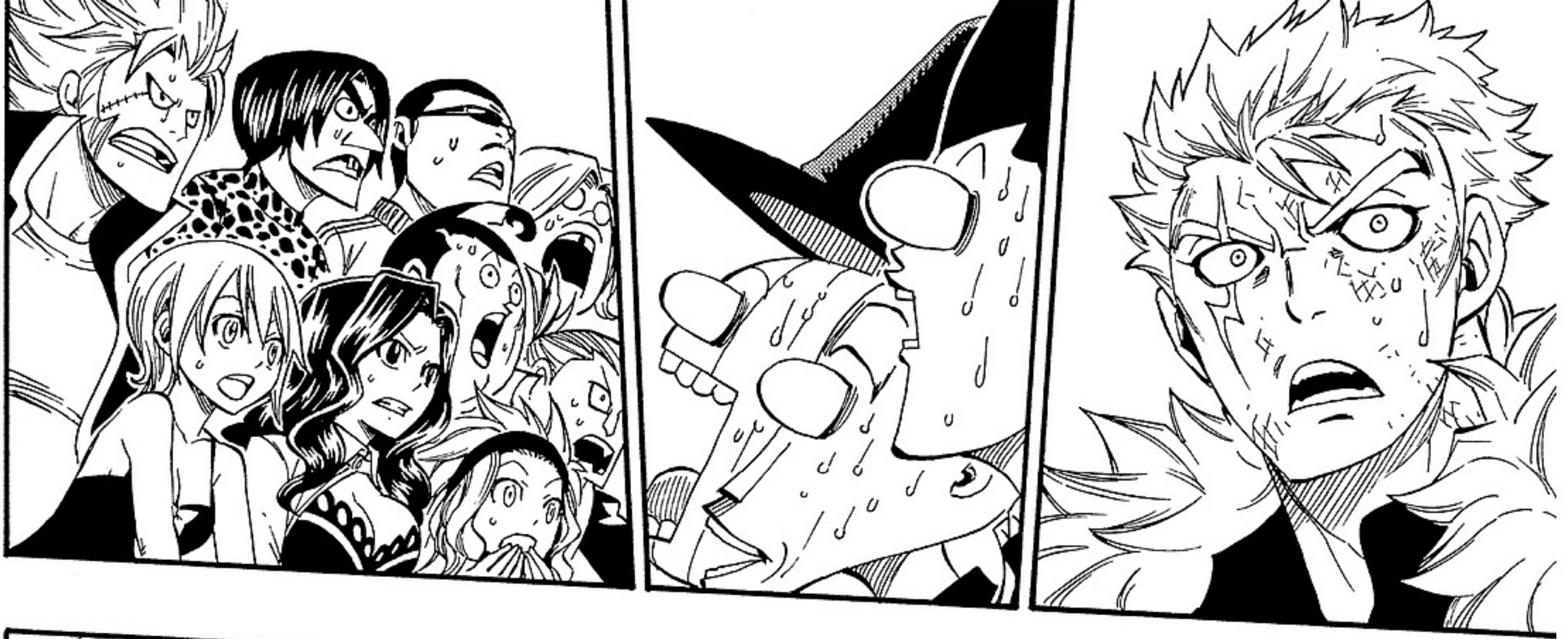
Lyon!!
You have to
attack Juvia
too!!





*Thunder God's Charged Particle Cannon!



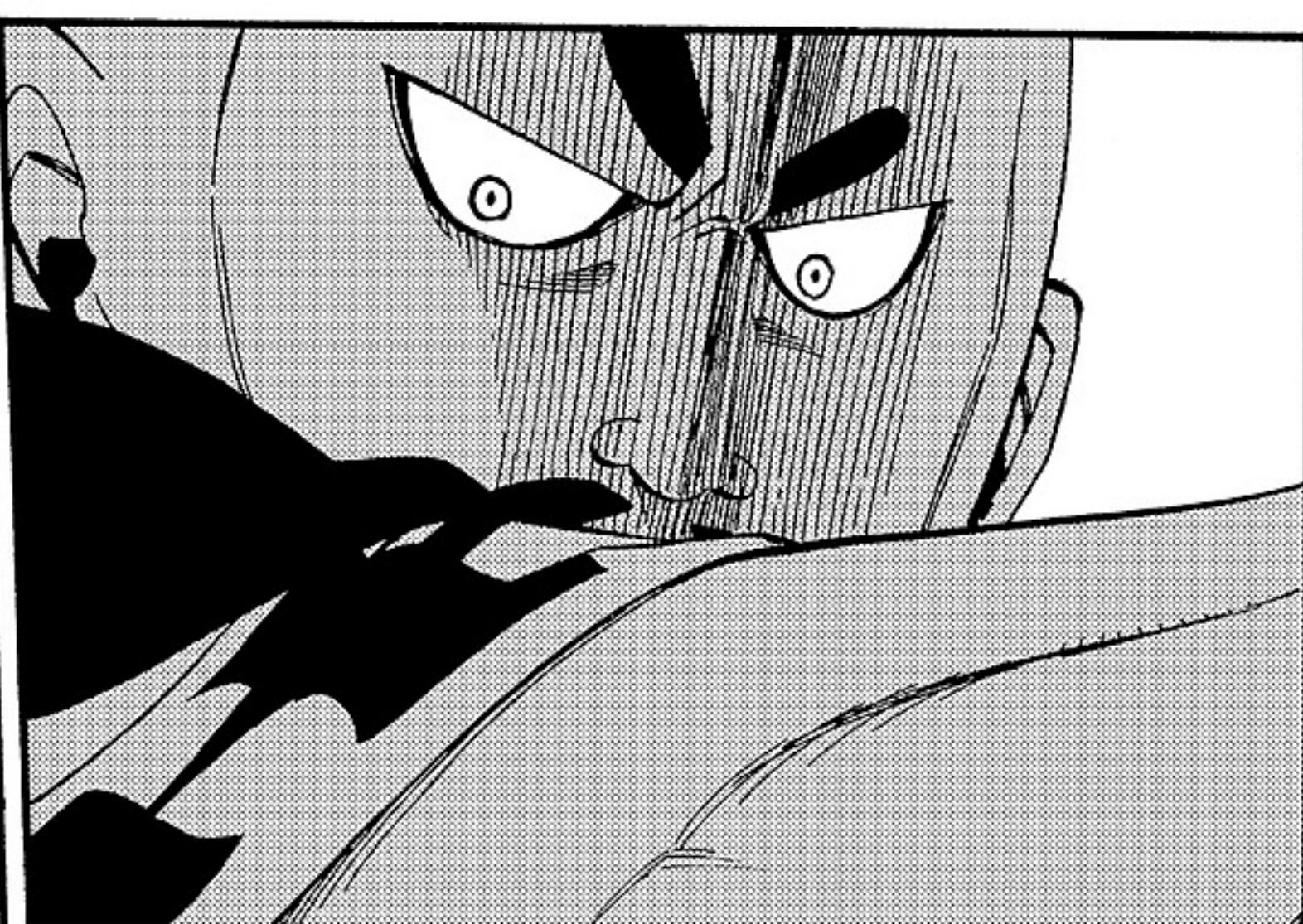


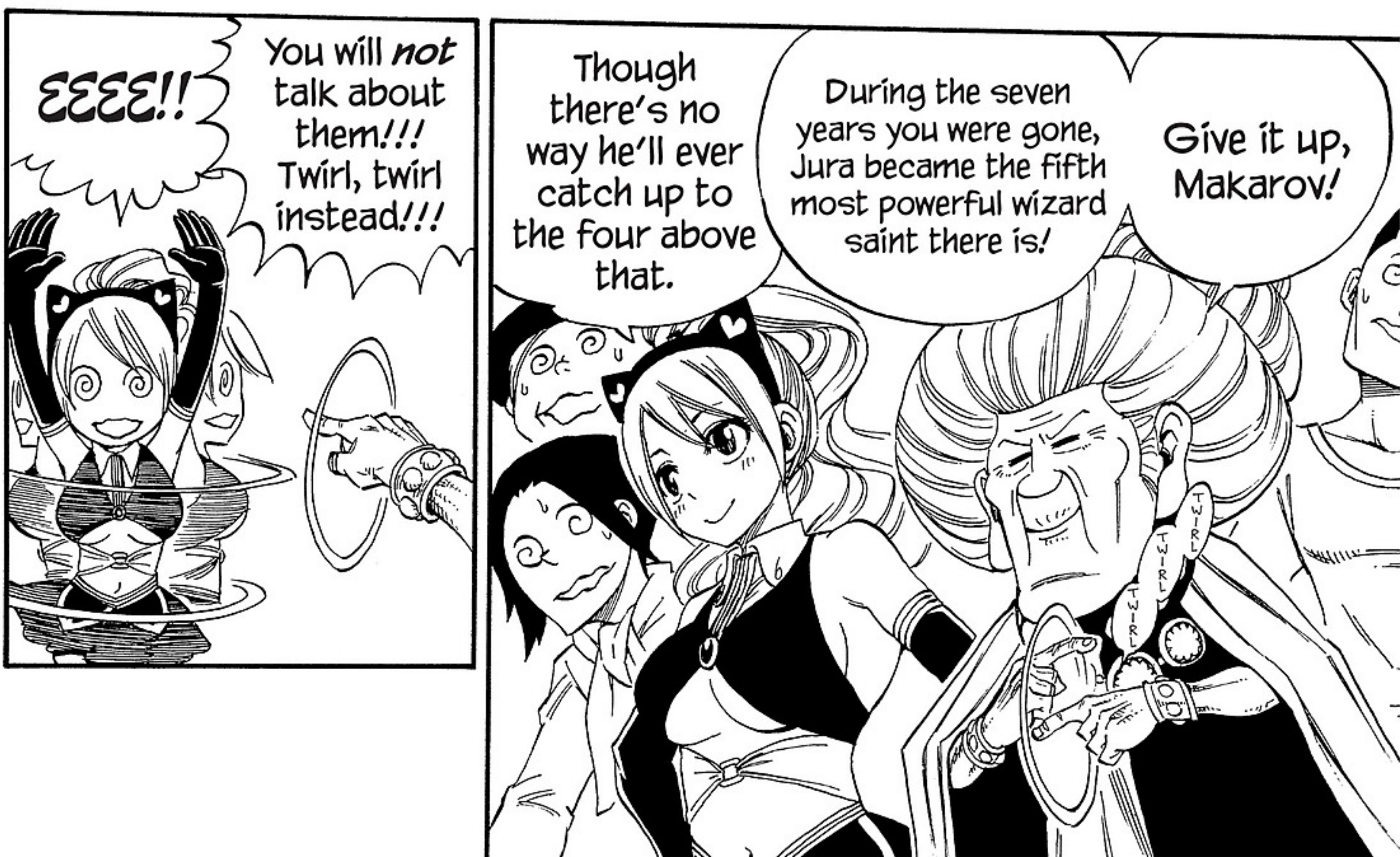
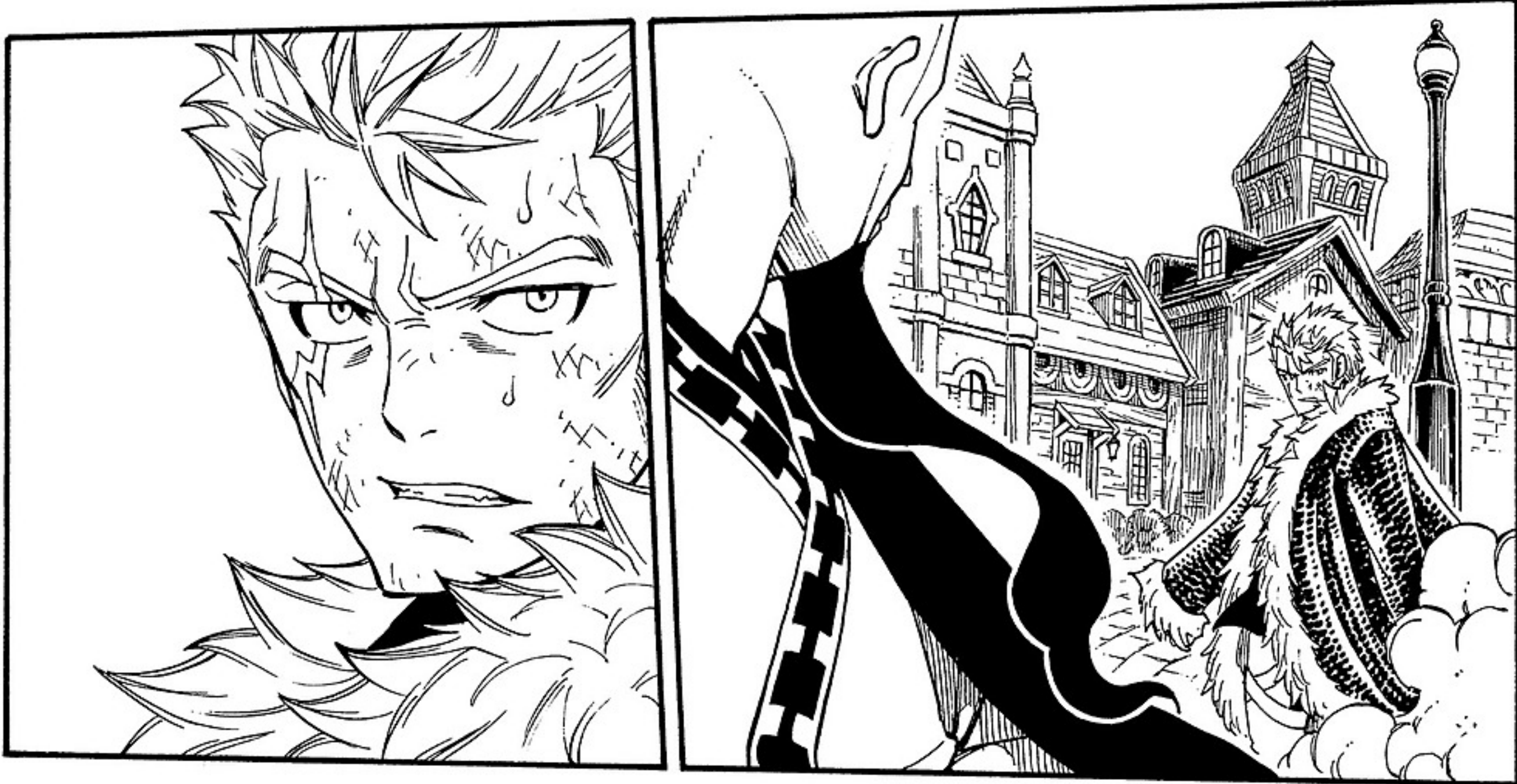


THAT WAS OLGA THERE!!!

1. Saber Tooth	55P
2. Fairy Tail	11+1
3. Lamia Scale	50P

H-H-E'S A MONSTER !!!!



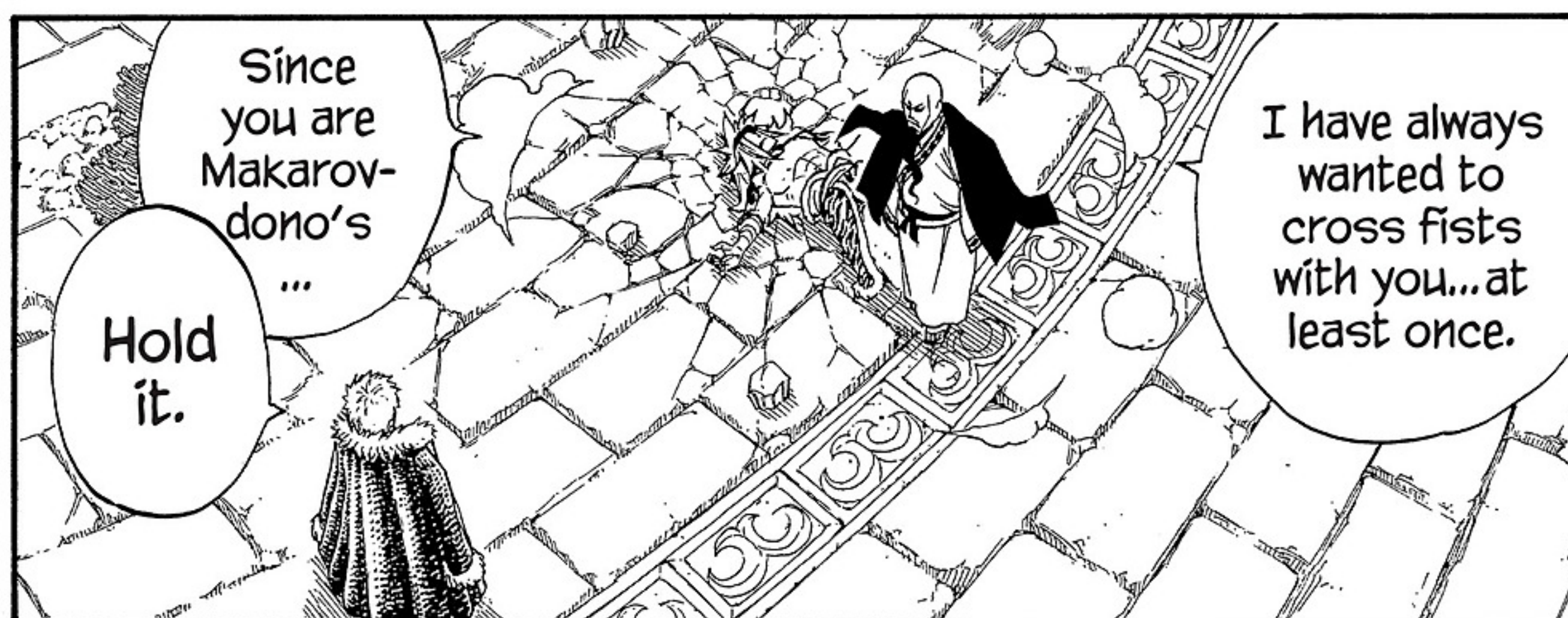




And that makes Jura the greatest human wizard there is!

They aren't really even human!

The Four Emperors of Ishgal
...



Since you are Makarov-dono's ...

Hold it.

I have always wanted to cross fists with you...at least once.



The two of us standing here aren't an old guy with some big title or somebody's grandson.

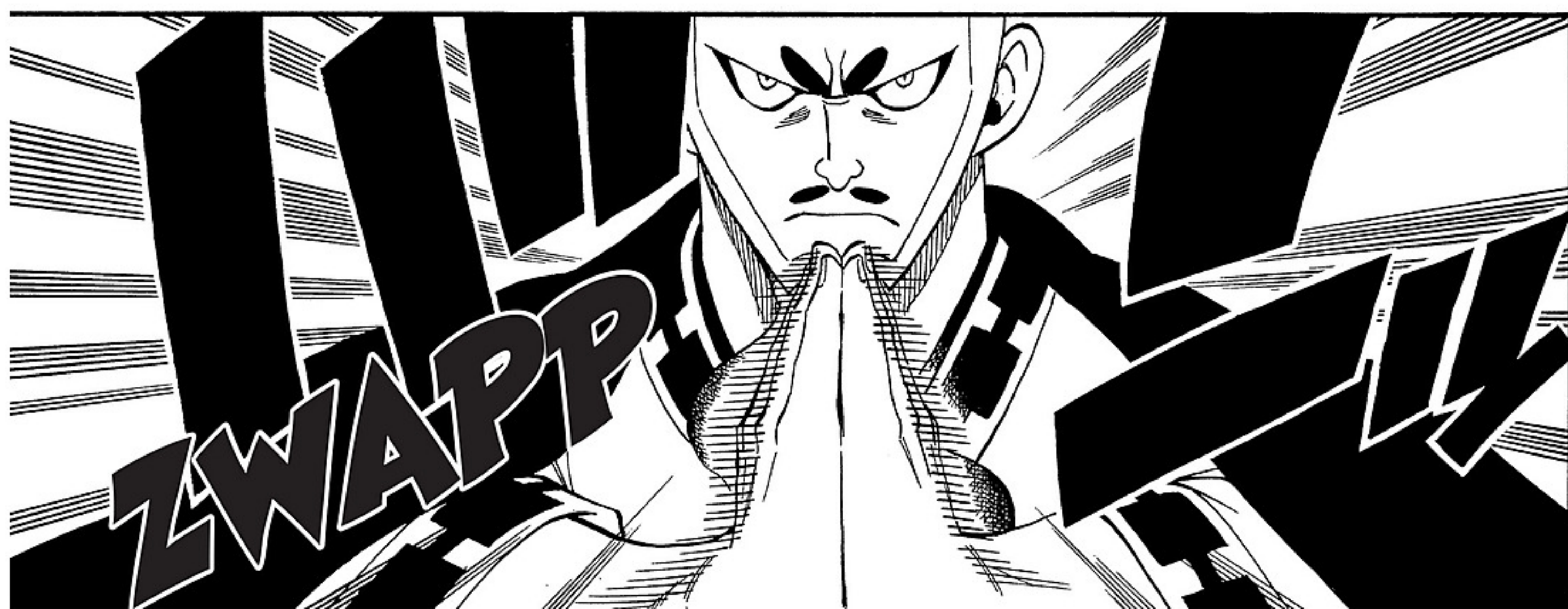
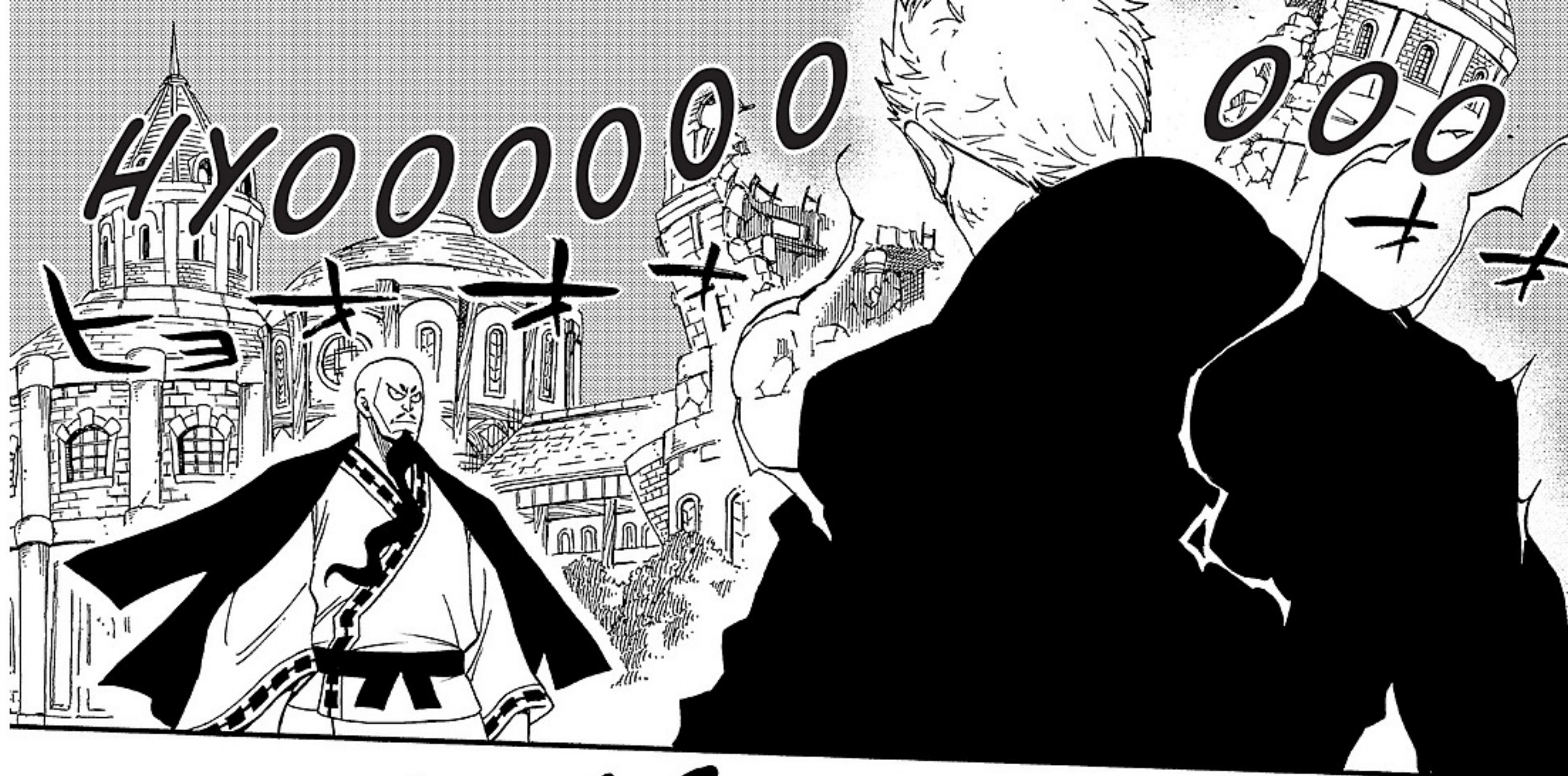
Don't finish that sentence.



***Just two
guys facin'
off.***



***I like
that
look.***







However high you get, there's always somewhere higher.

MATO, YOU DIDN'T SAY THAT RIGHT.

Wow. Just... wow. Nunkpin.

I-I don't... have words for this...

A-AGAIN WITH JUST ONE ATTACK...



But you should look *down* sometimes too!



Nobody knows that better'n me!



*There might
be someone
at your
feet!!!*

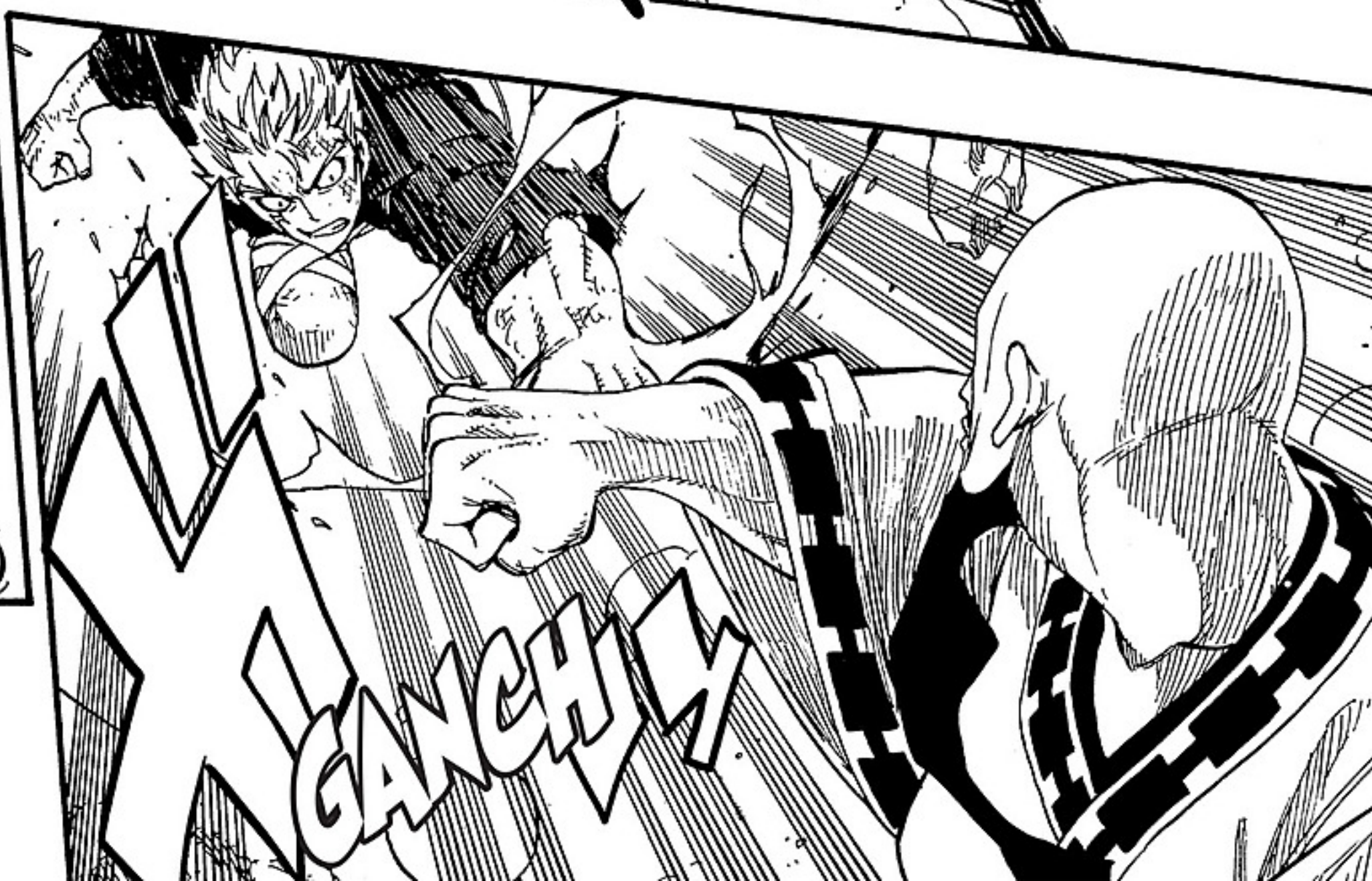
KRUNCH

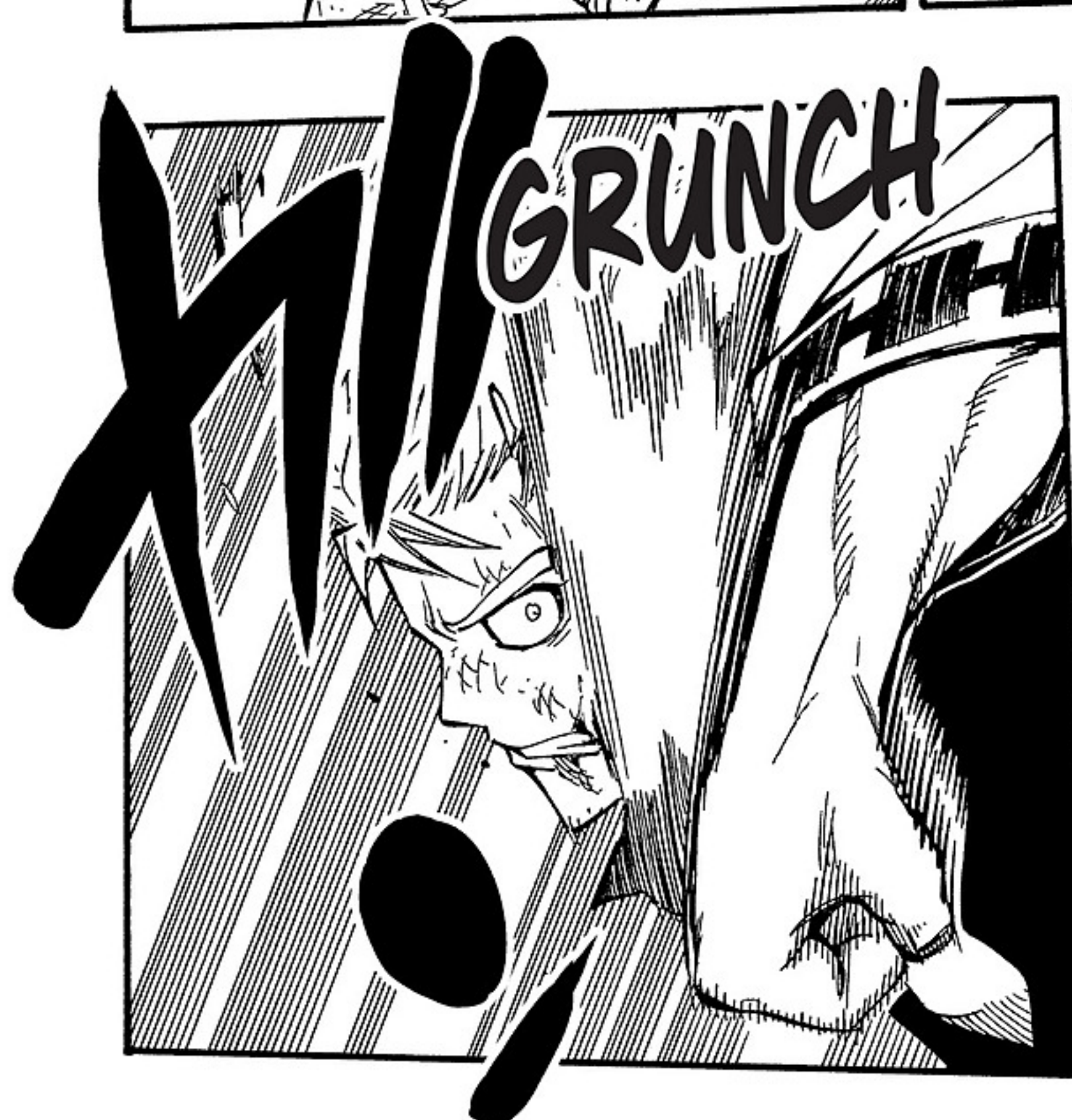
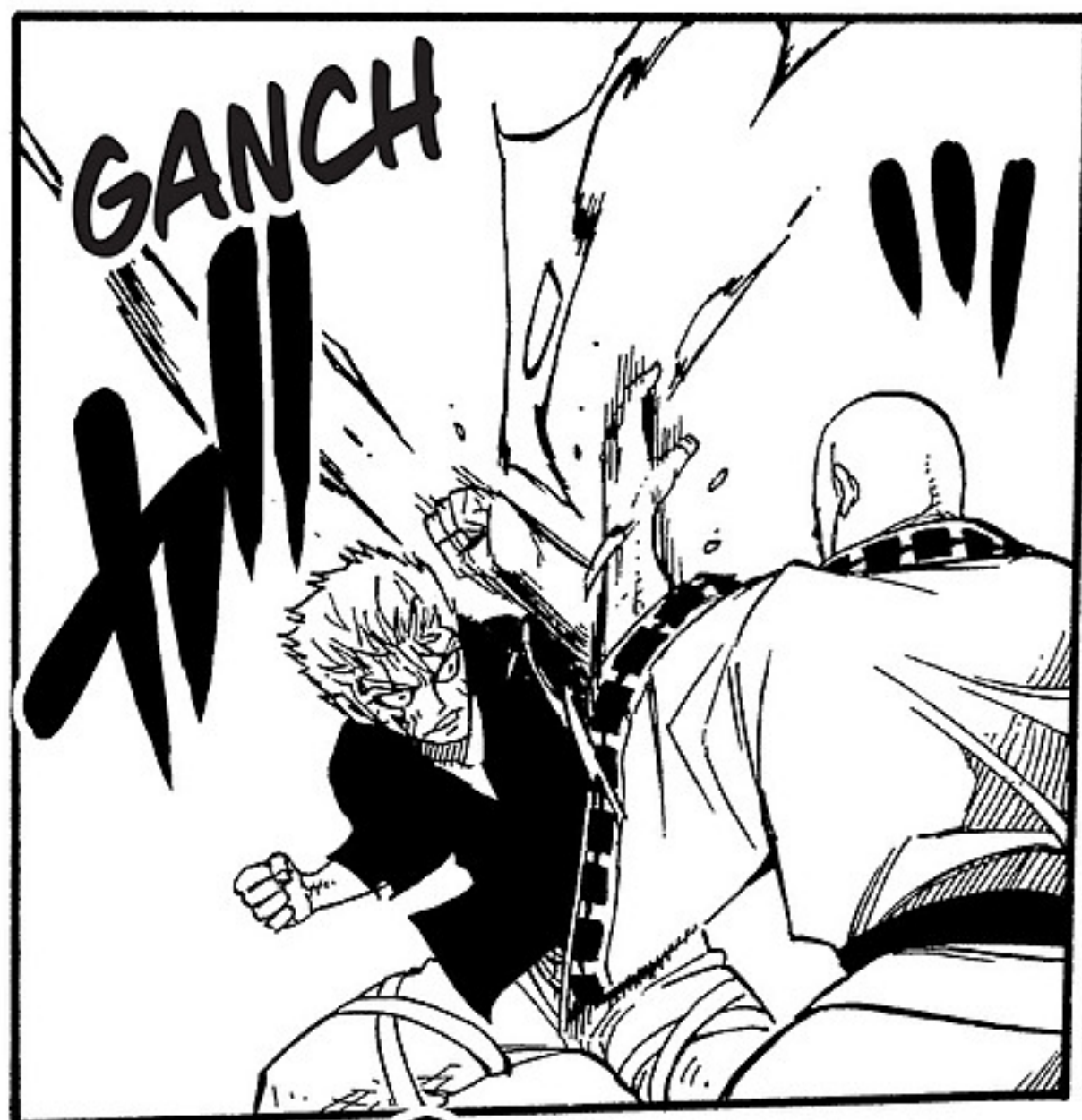


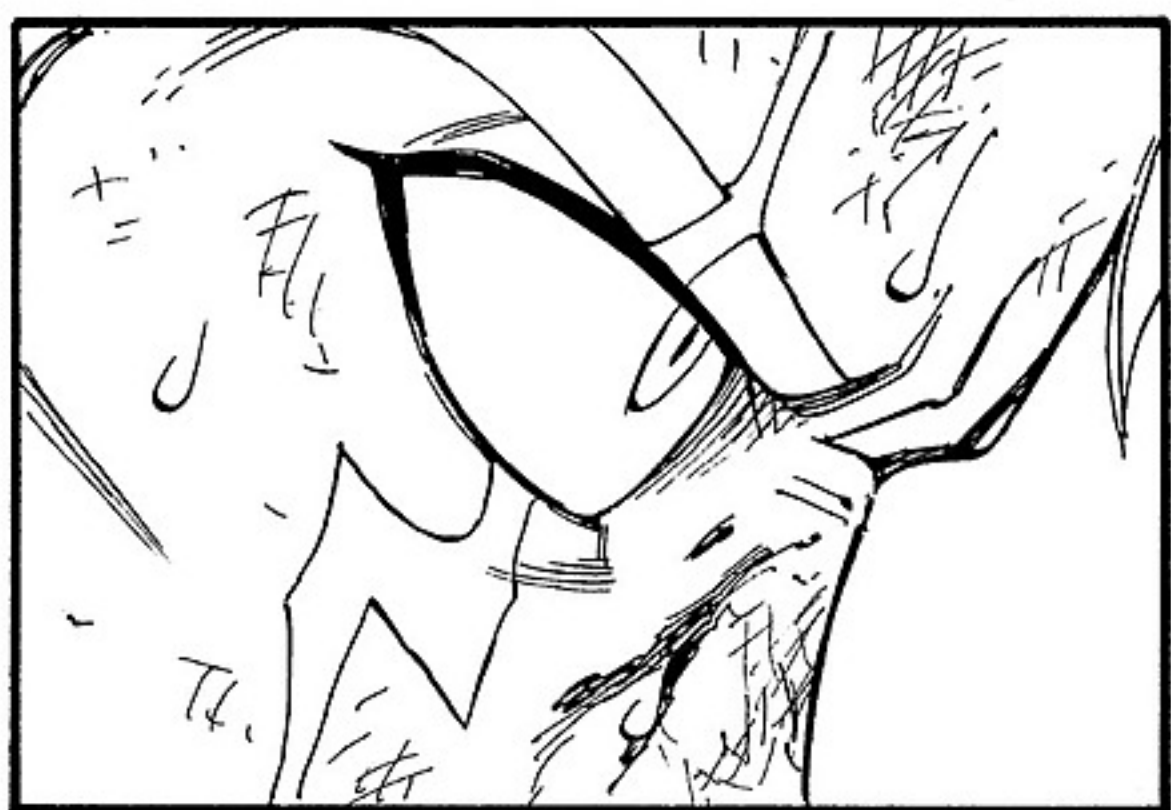


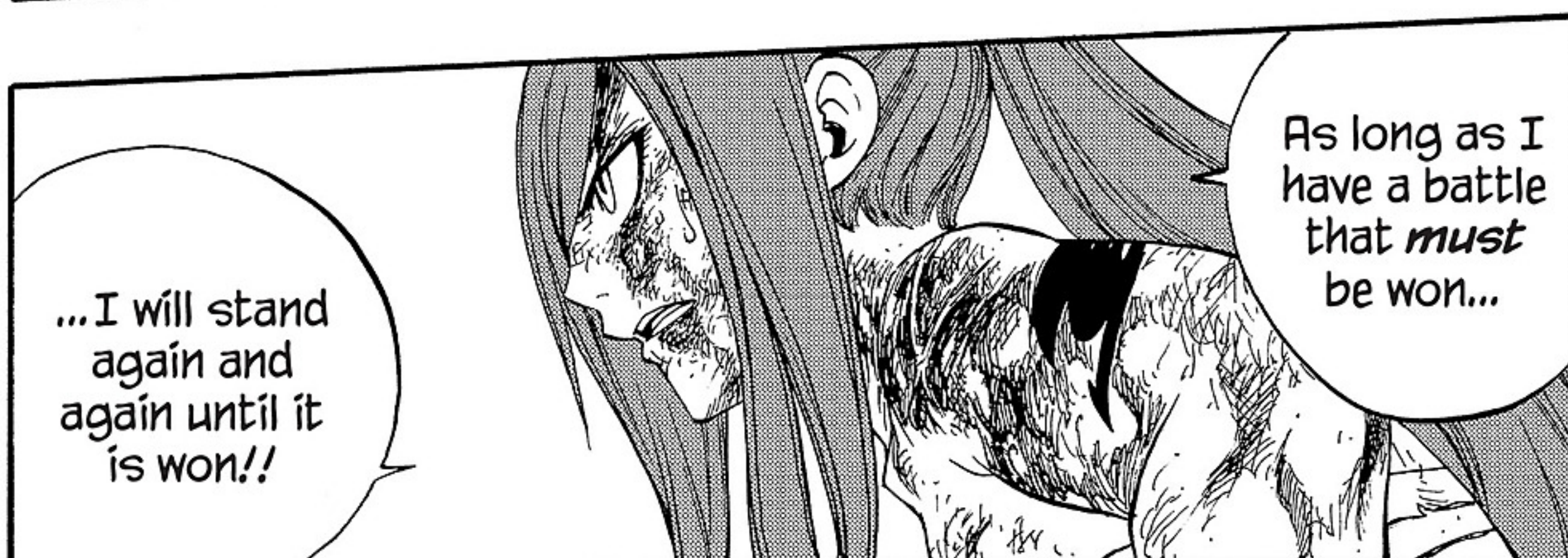
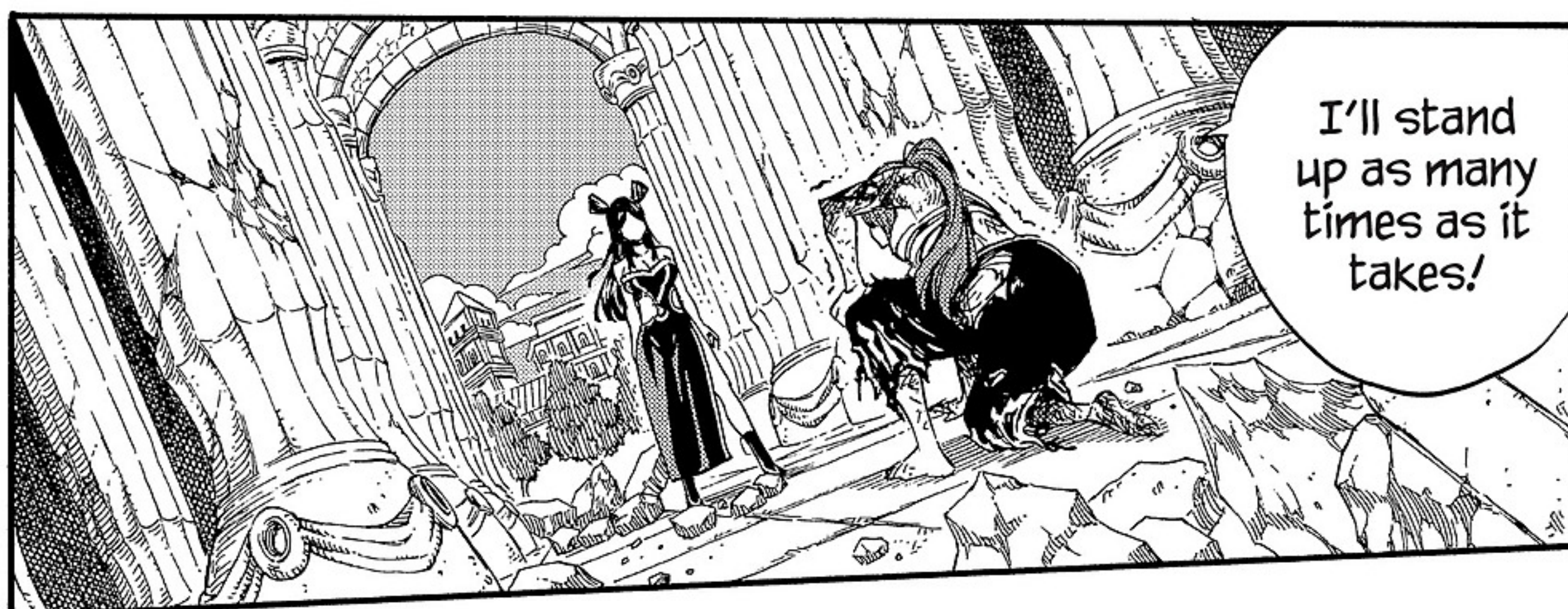
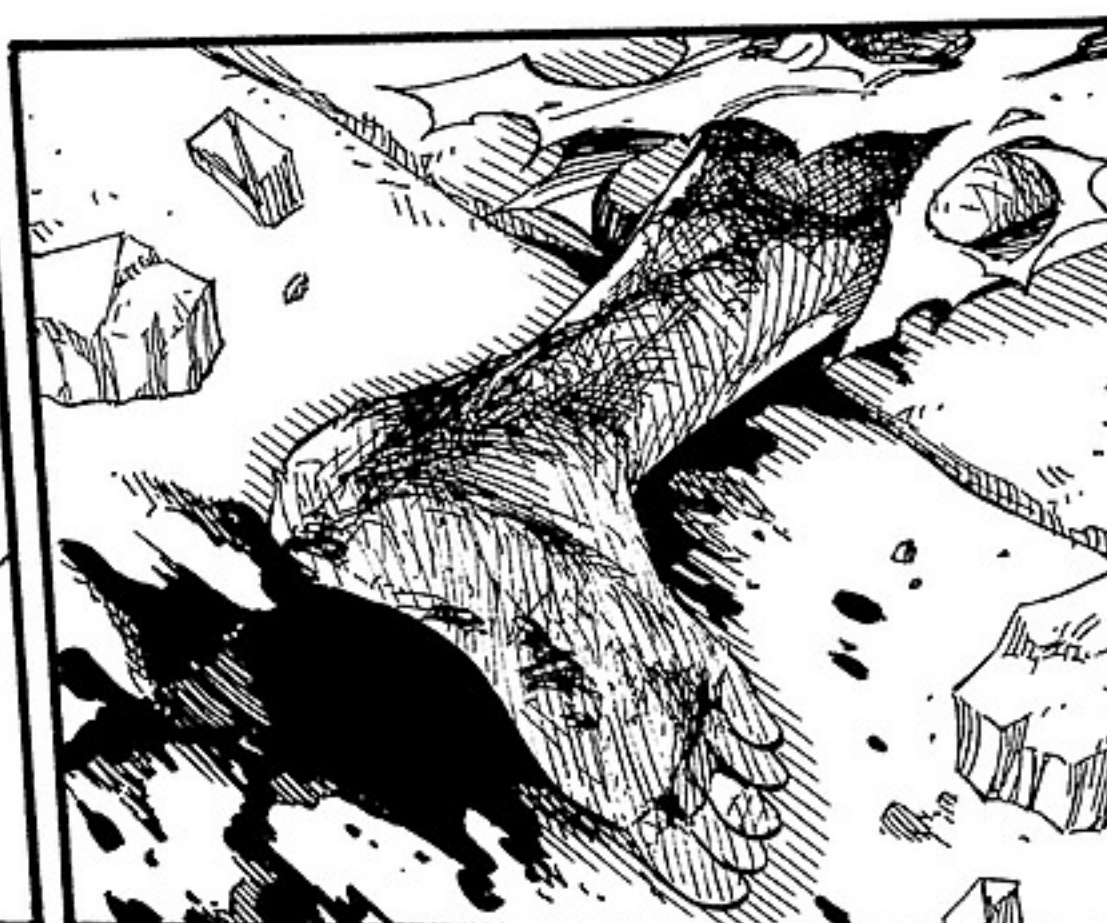
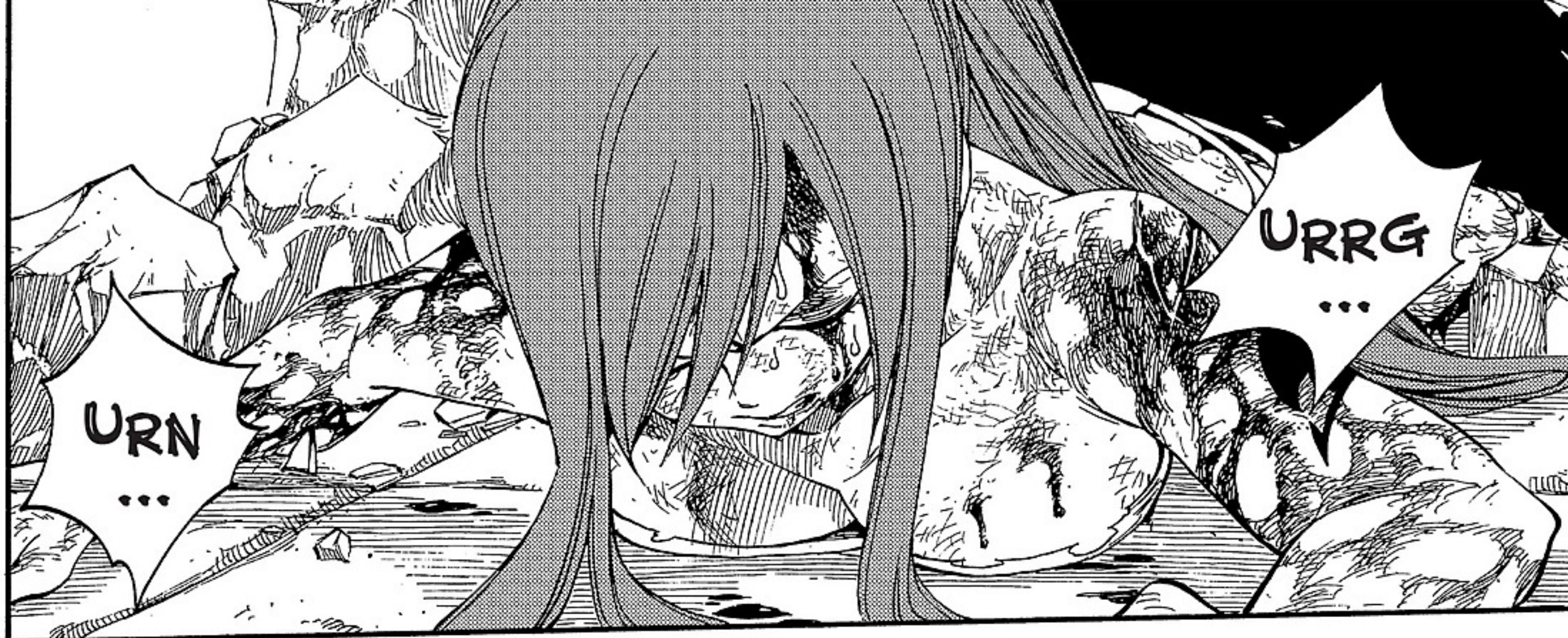
*Lightning Dragon's Sky-Piercing Halberd!





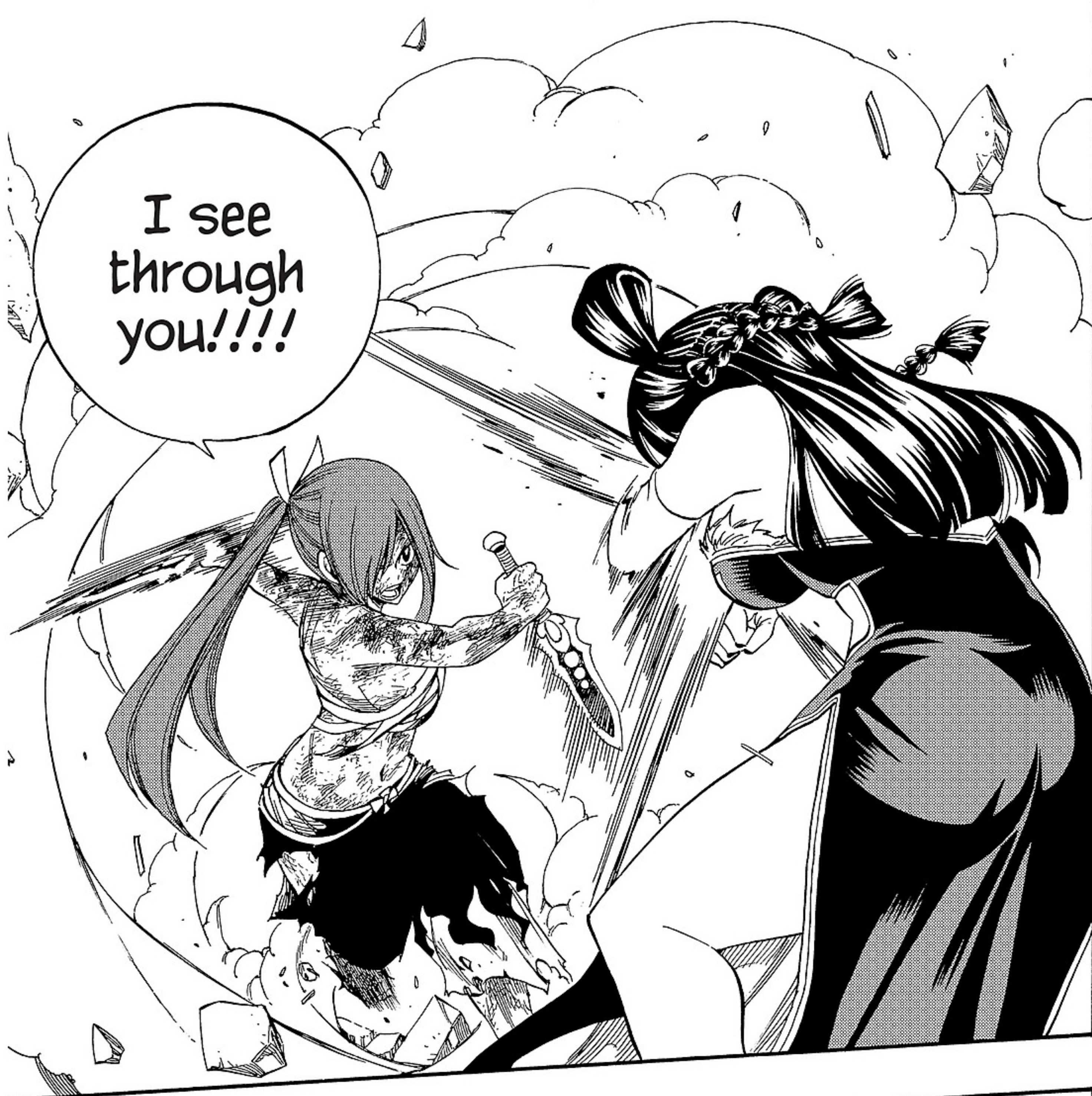








It's changing the characteristics of the space itself!





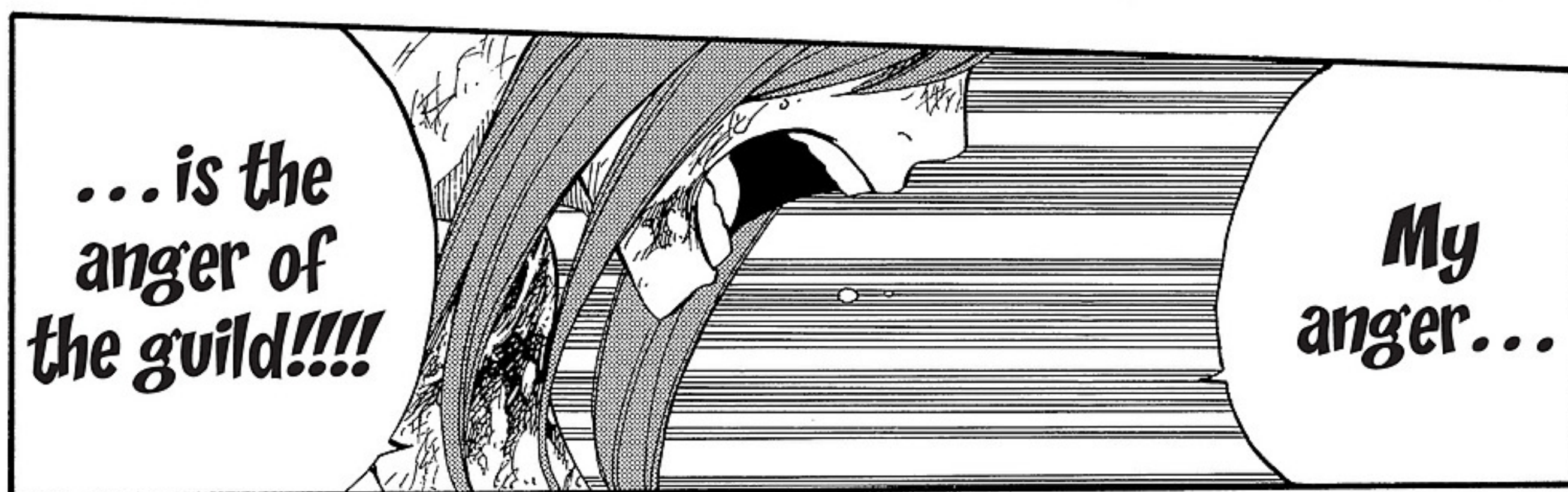
E Raigus!
E Raigus!
(You little...!!!!)



Urrm ...

Kh...

TUMP



...is the
anger of
the guild!!!!

My
anger...



SECOND
ORIGIN,
RELEASE
!!!!

OH!!



Forward,
young
ones!

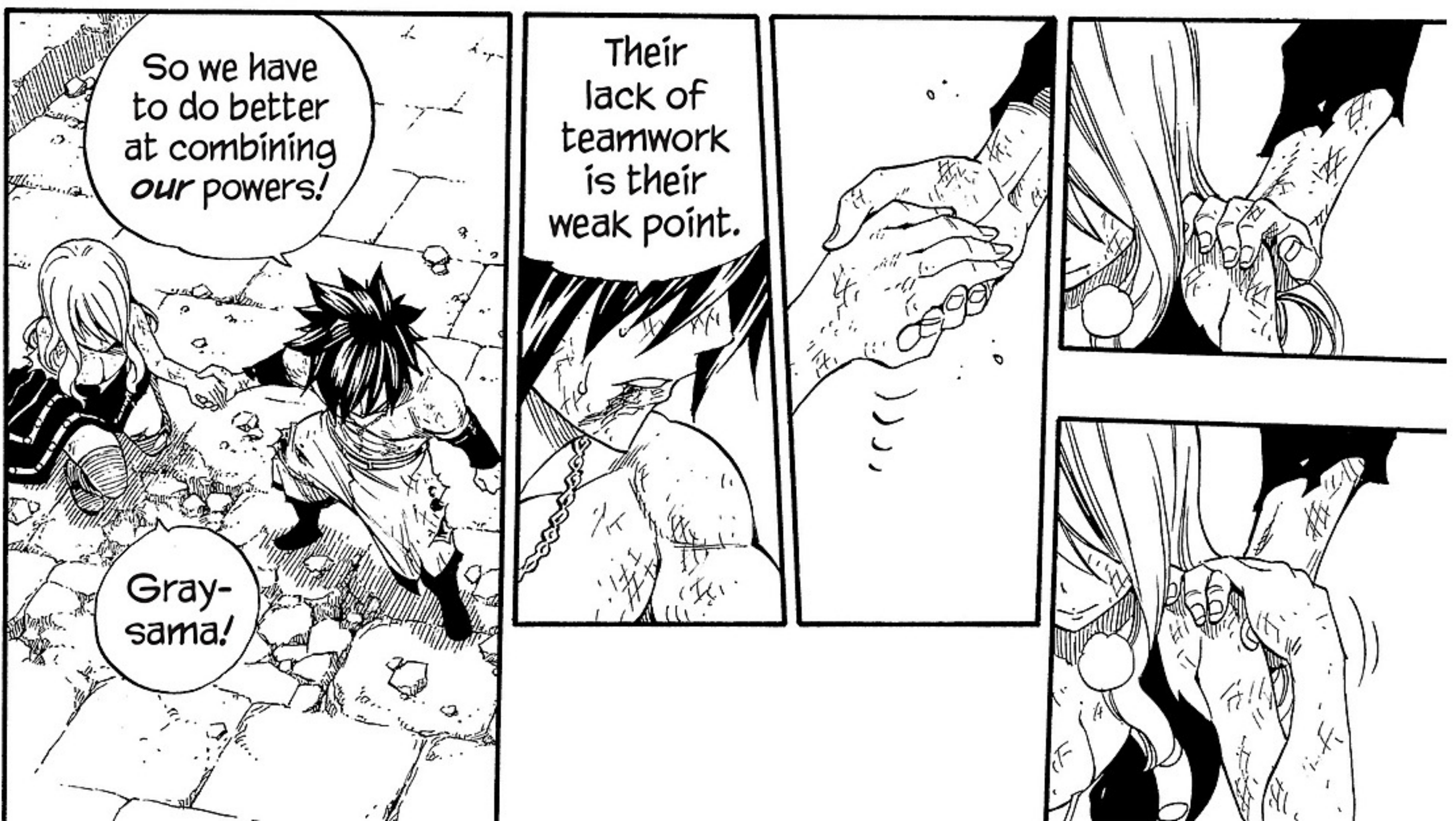


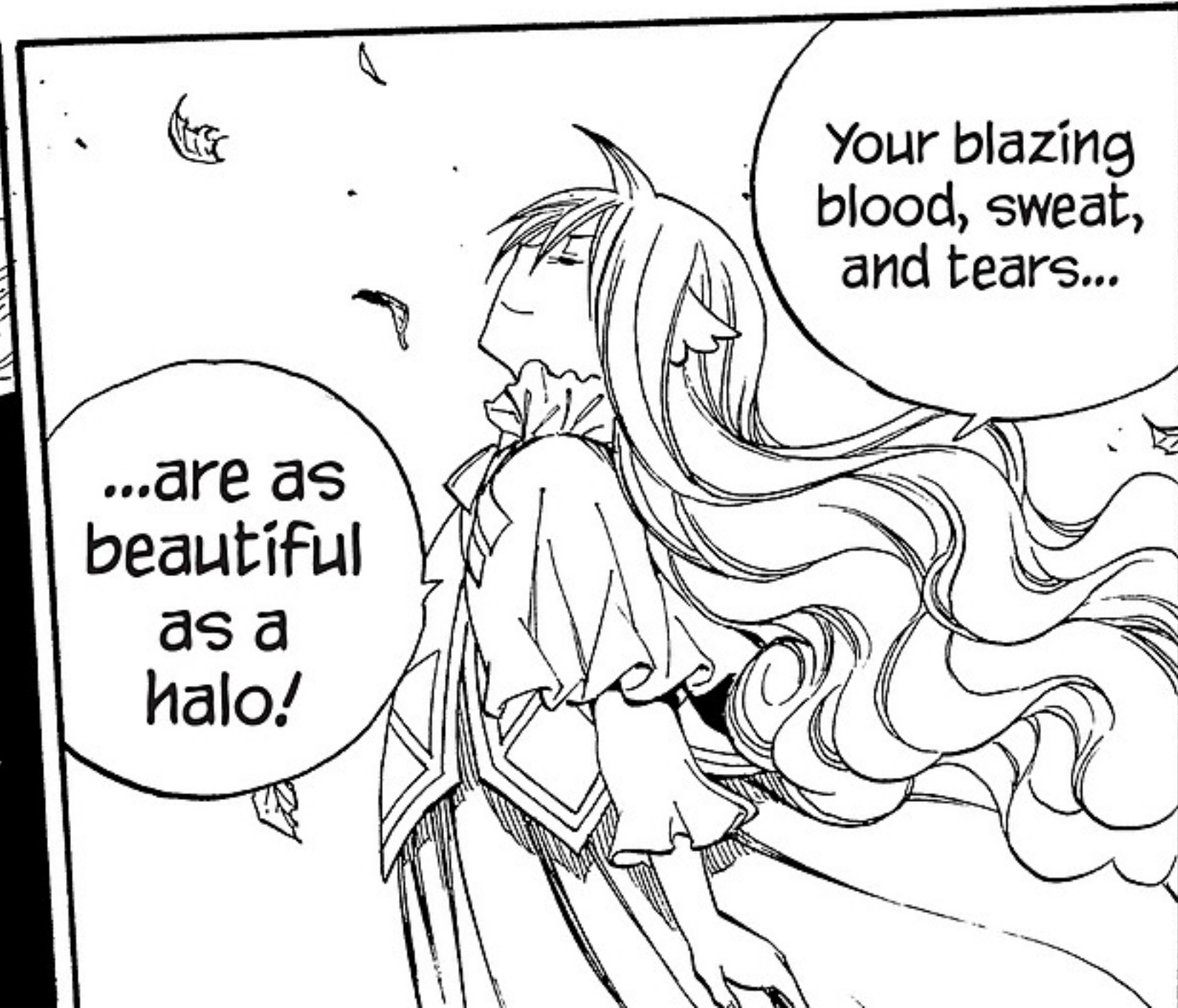
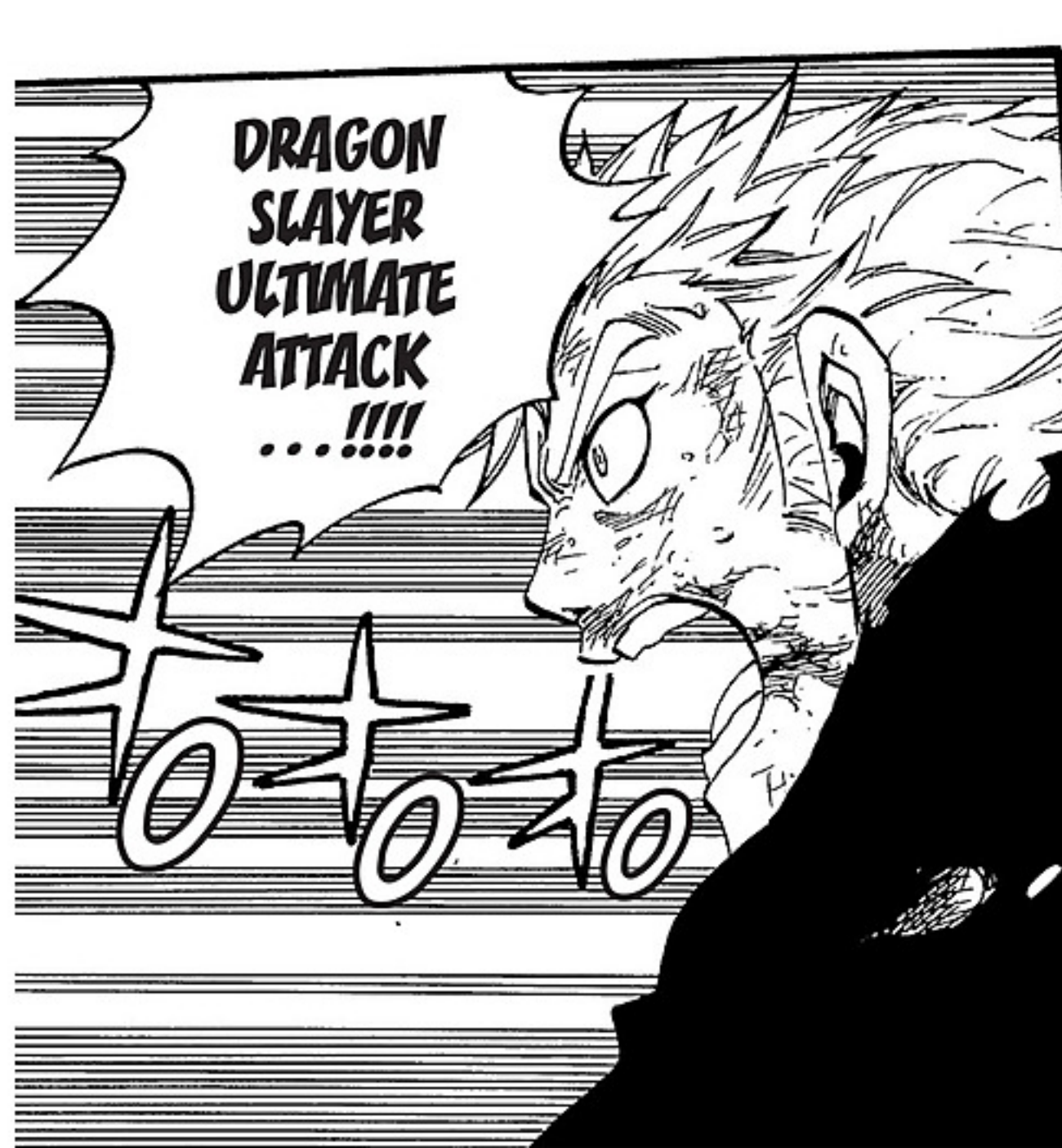
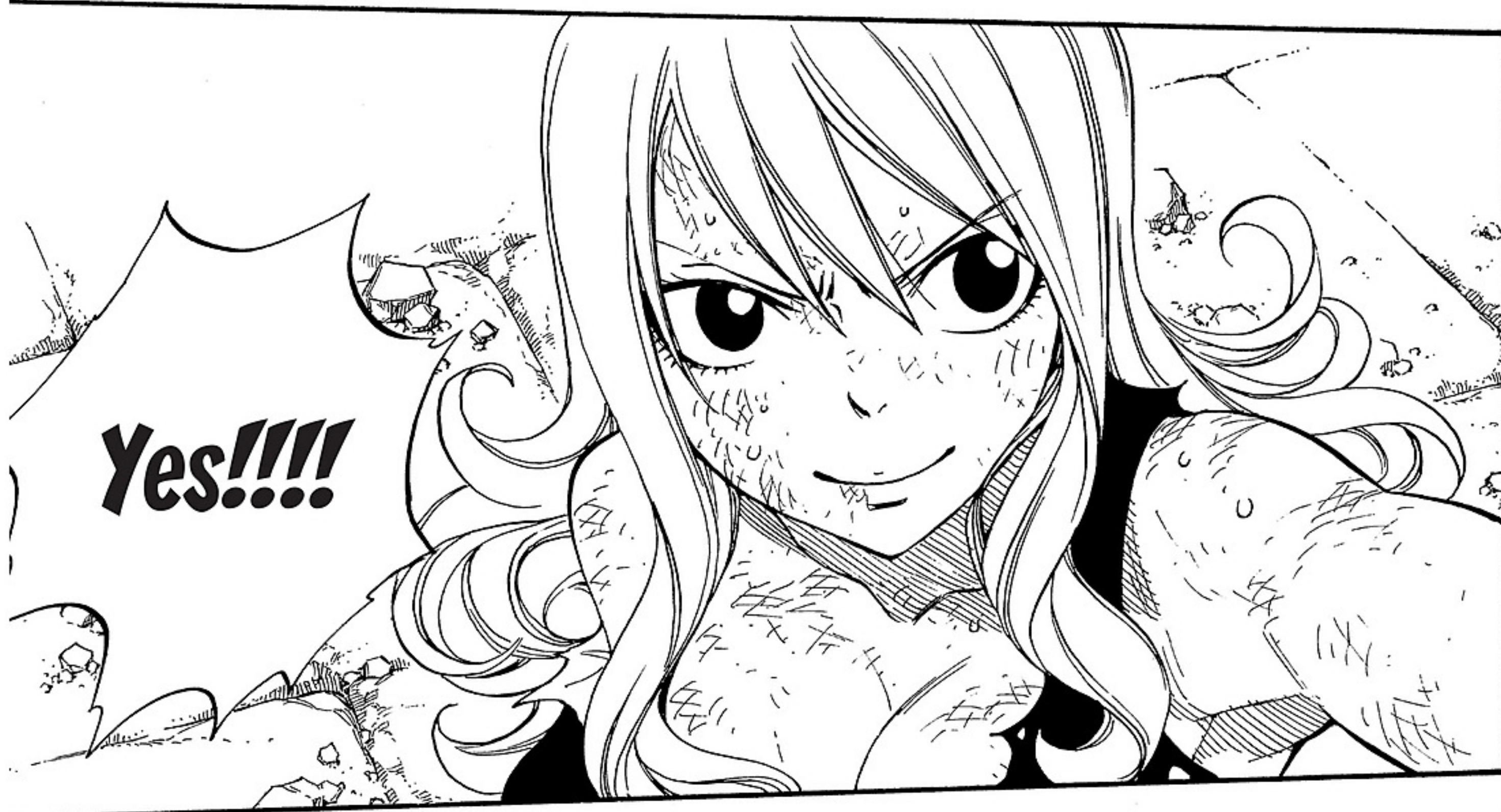
She's
been
hiding it
all this
time?!!!

Her
second
origin
?!!



**NAKAGAMI
ARMOR
!!!**







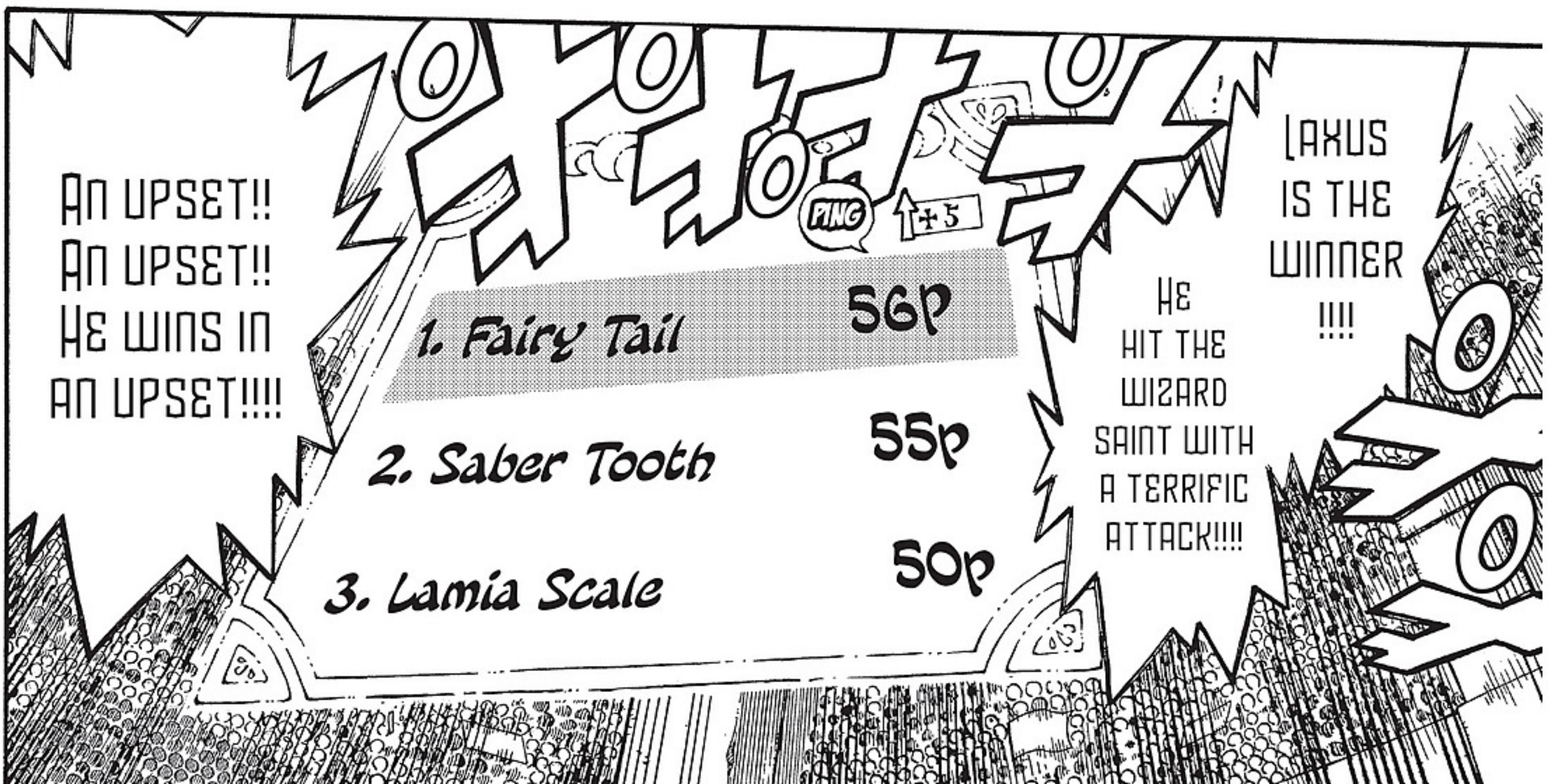
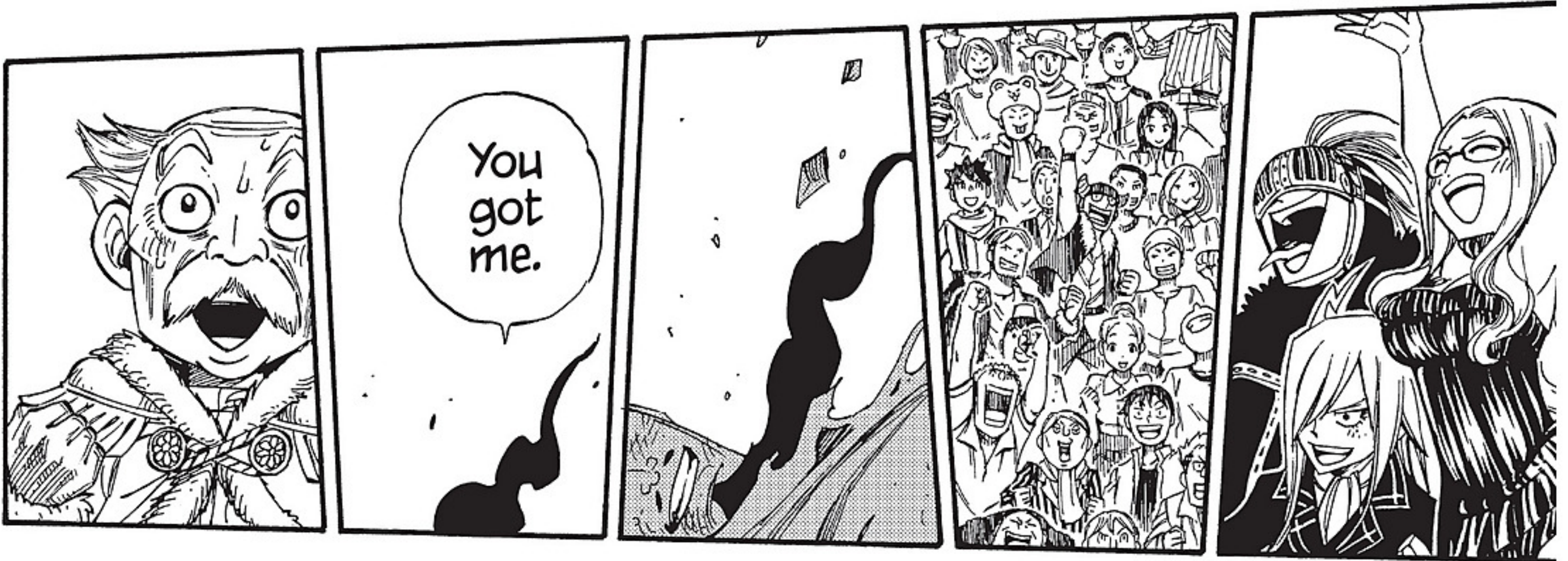
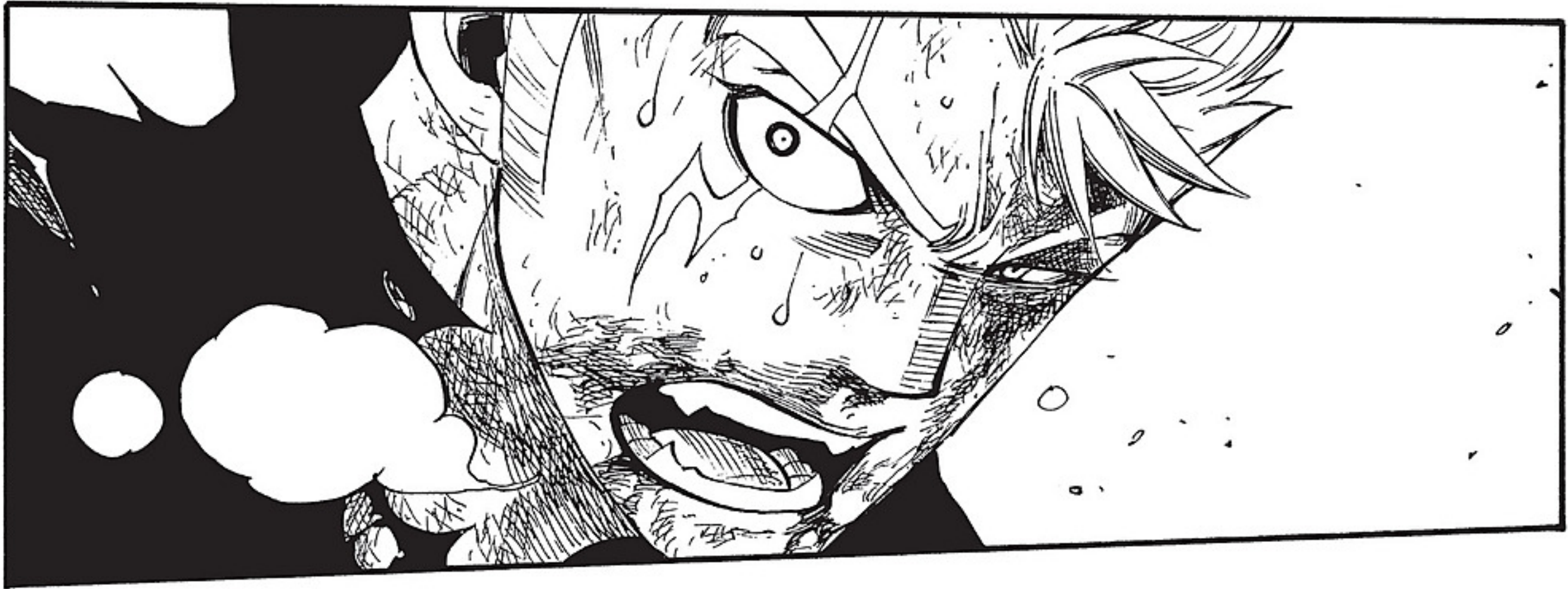
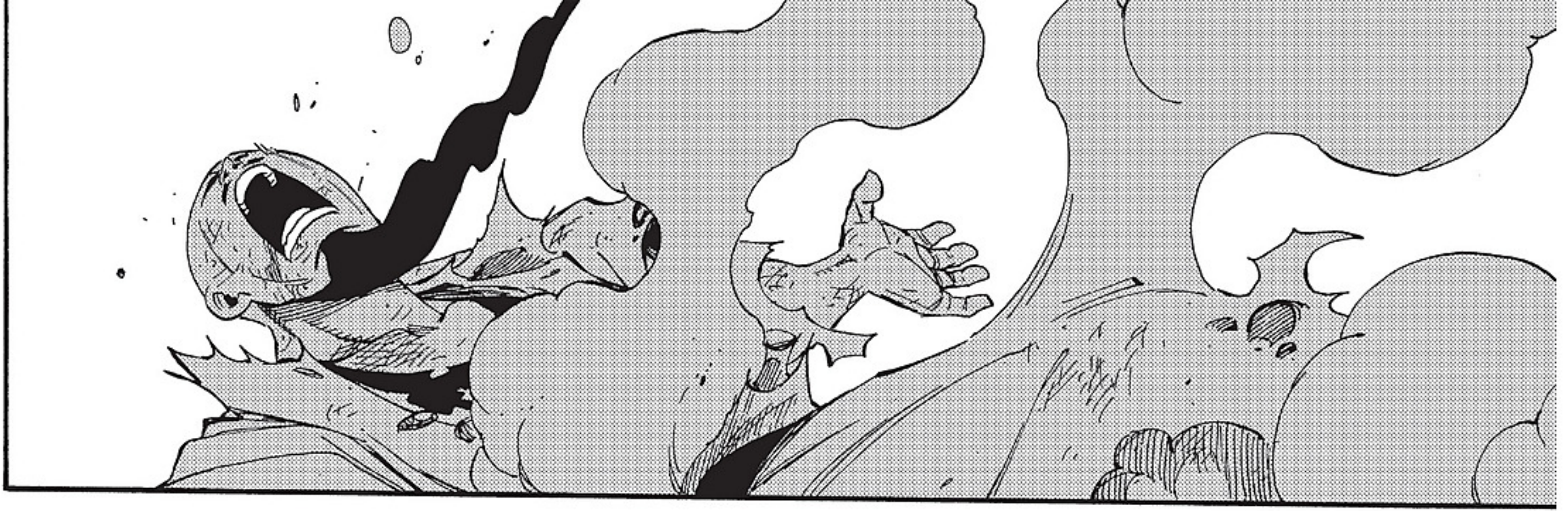
**NARUMI-
KAZUCHI***
!!!!

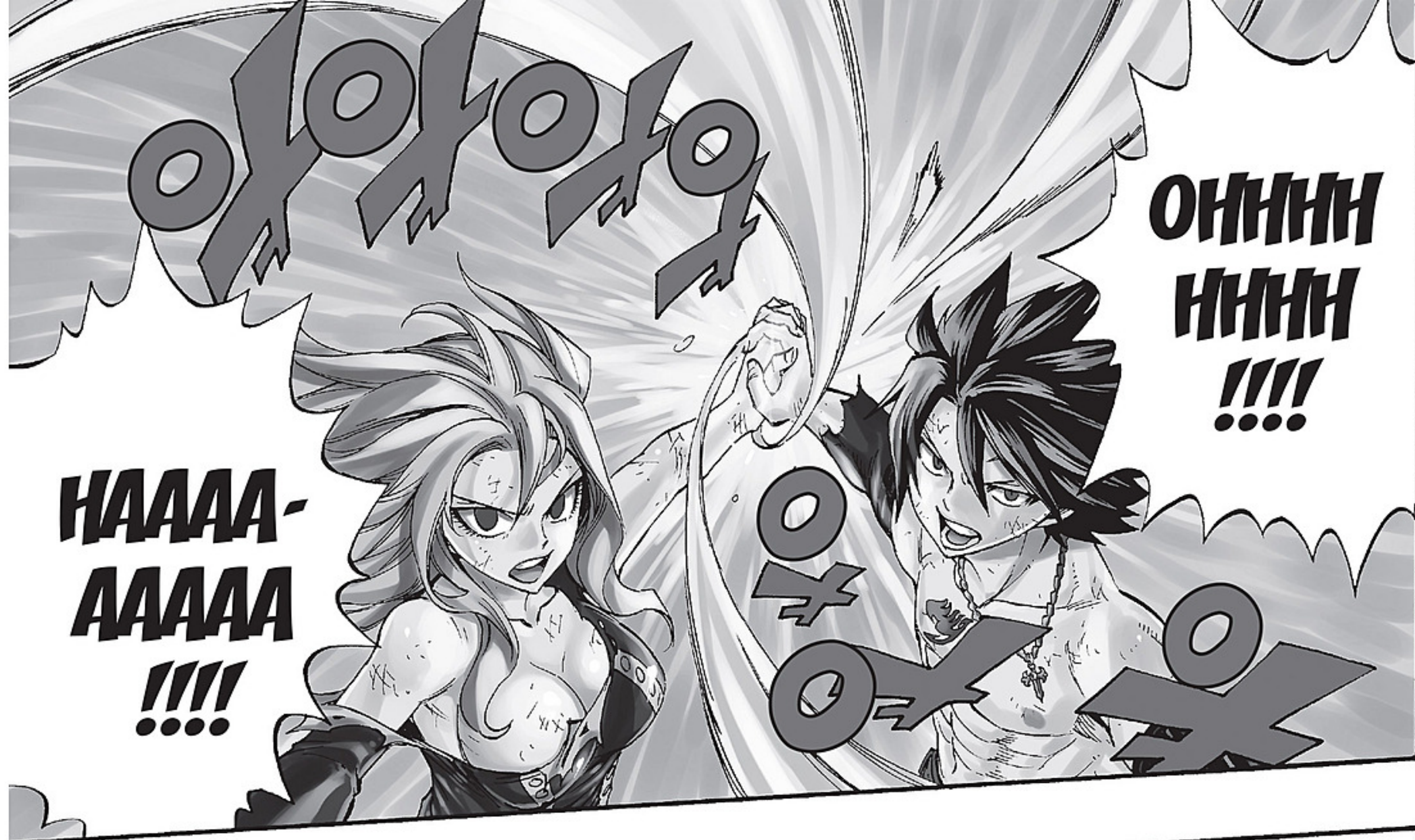
**Wherever
you go,
you blaze a
new path!**

**Be not
afraid...**

**... young
ones!**

*Roaring Thunder!



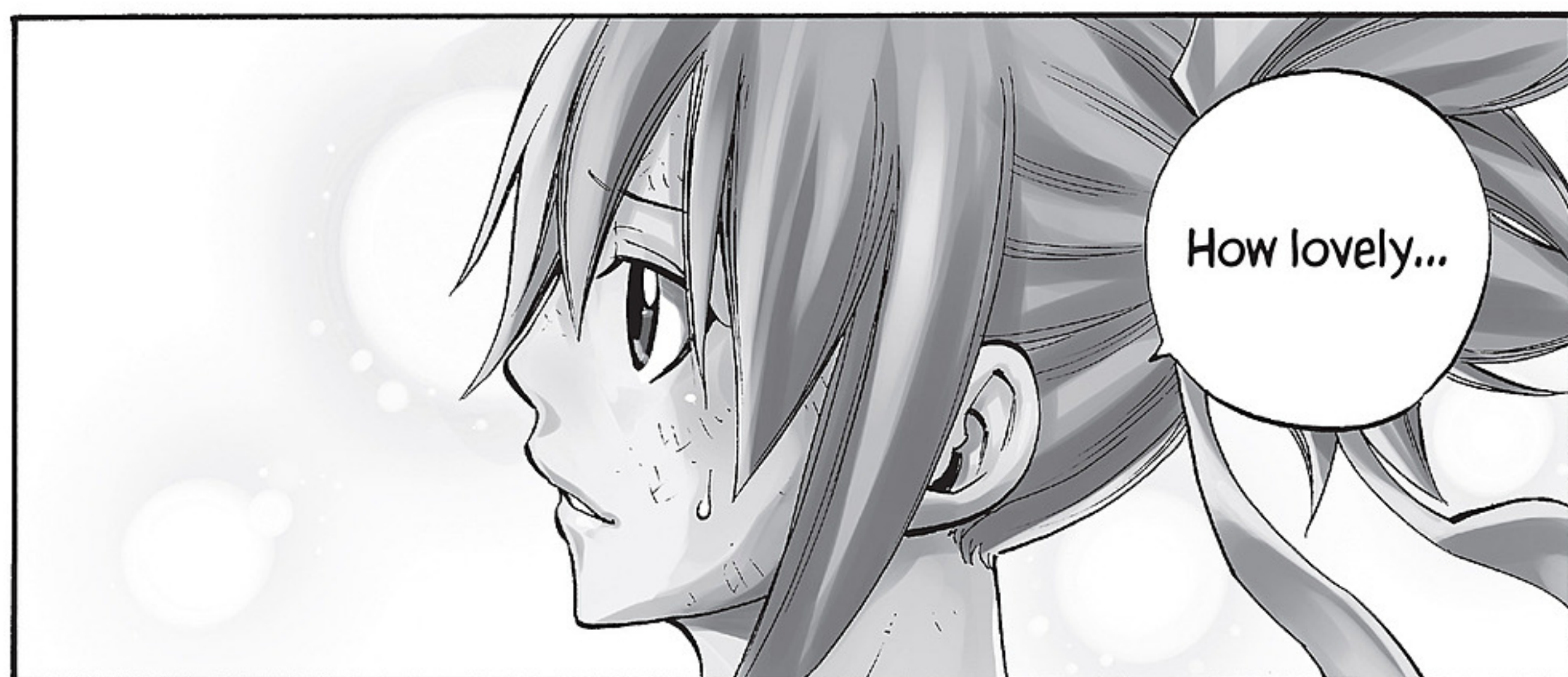


What are you
waiting for,
Sherría!! Restore
us!!!



Sherría
!!

You cretin!!!
You dare force
yourself on her
before my very
eyes!!



How lovely...

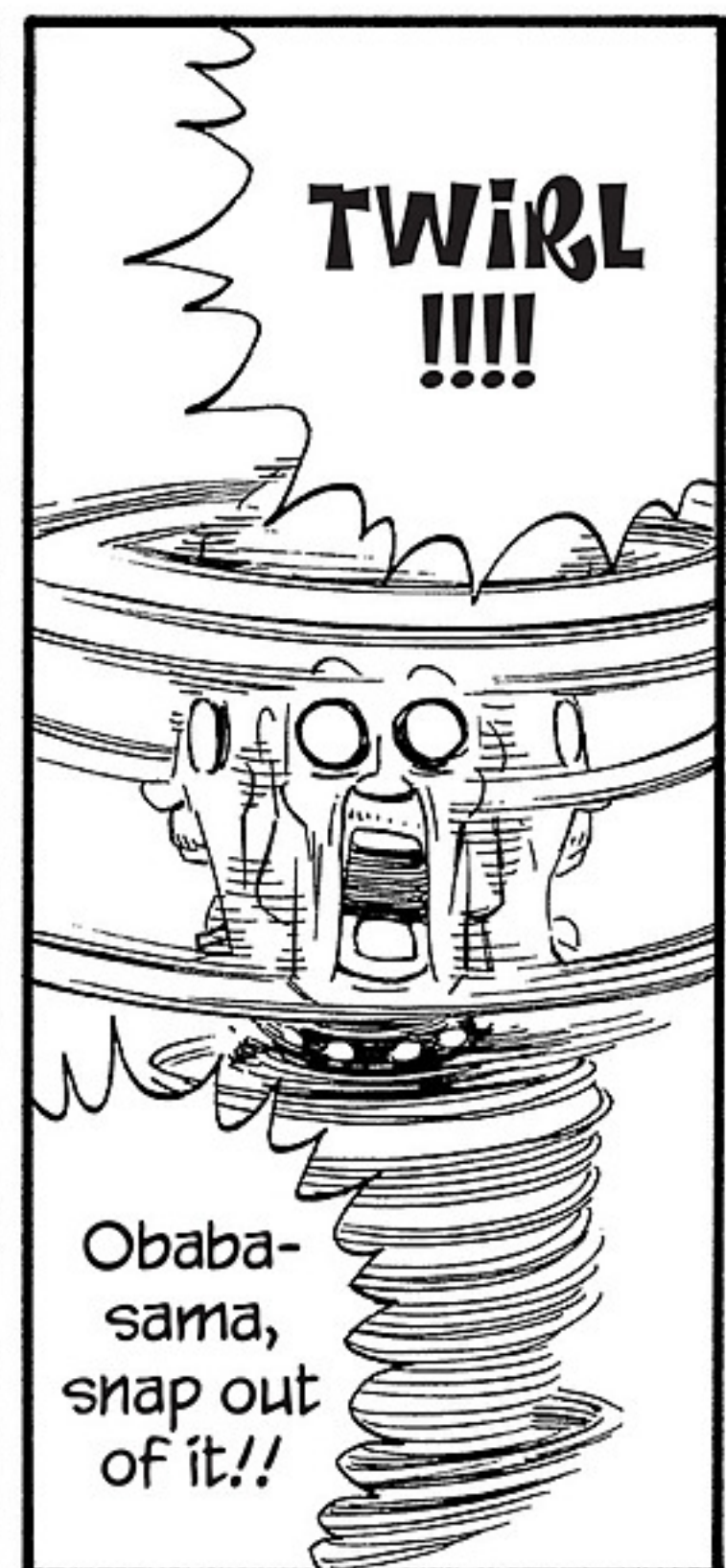
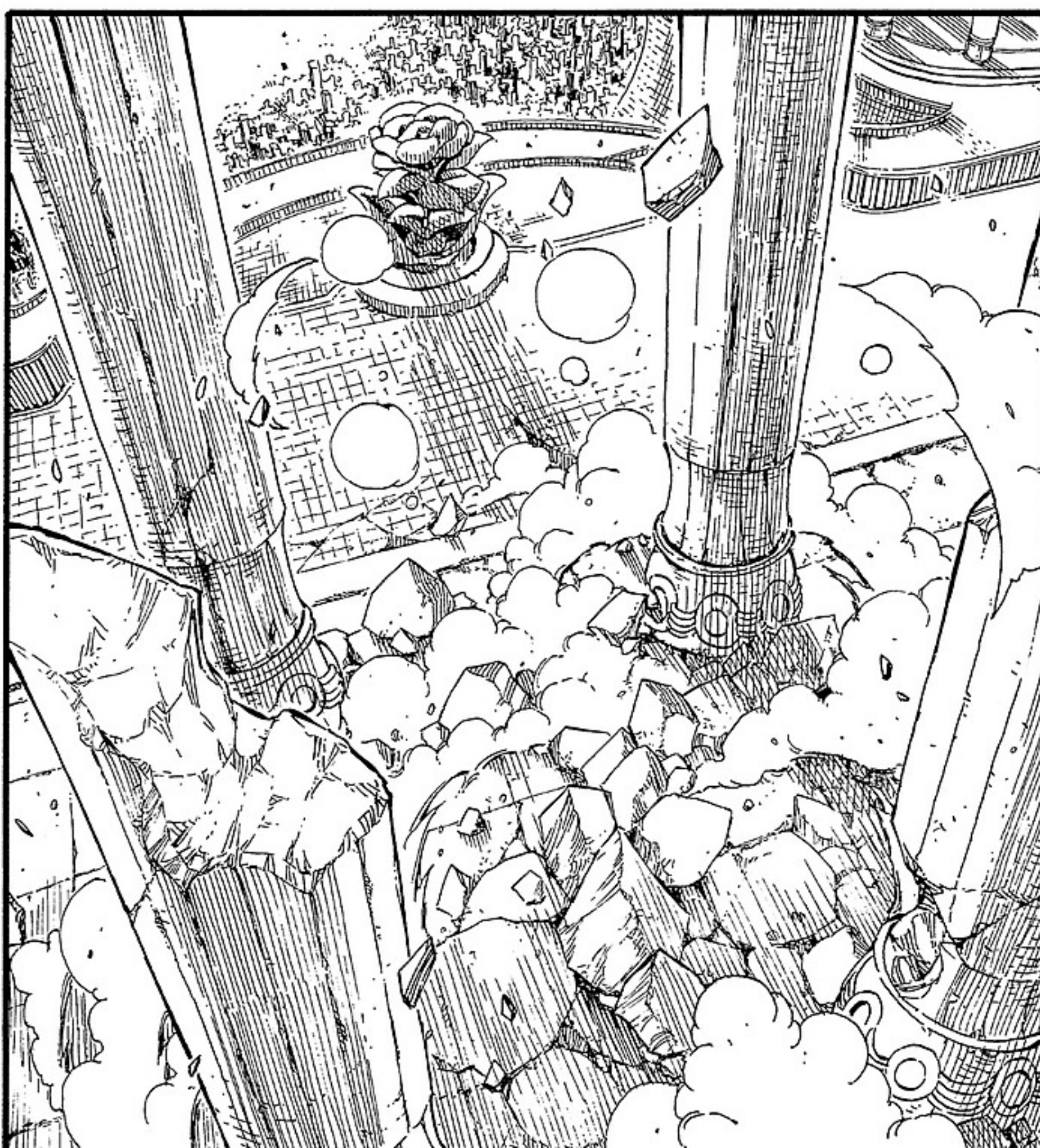
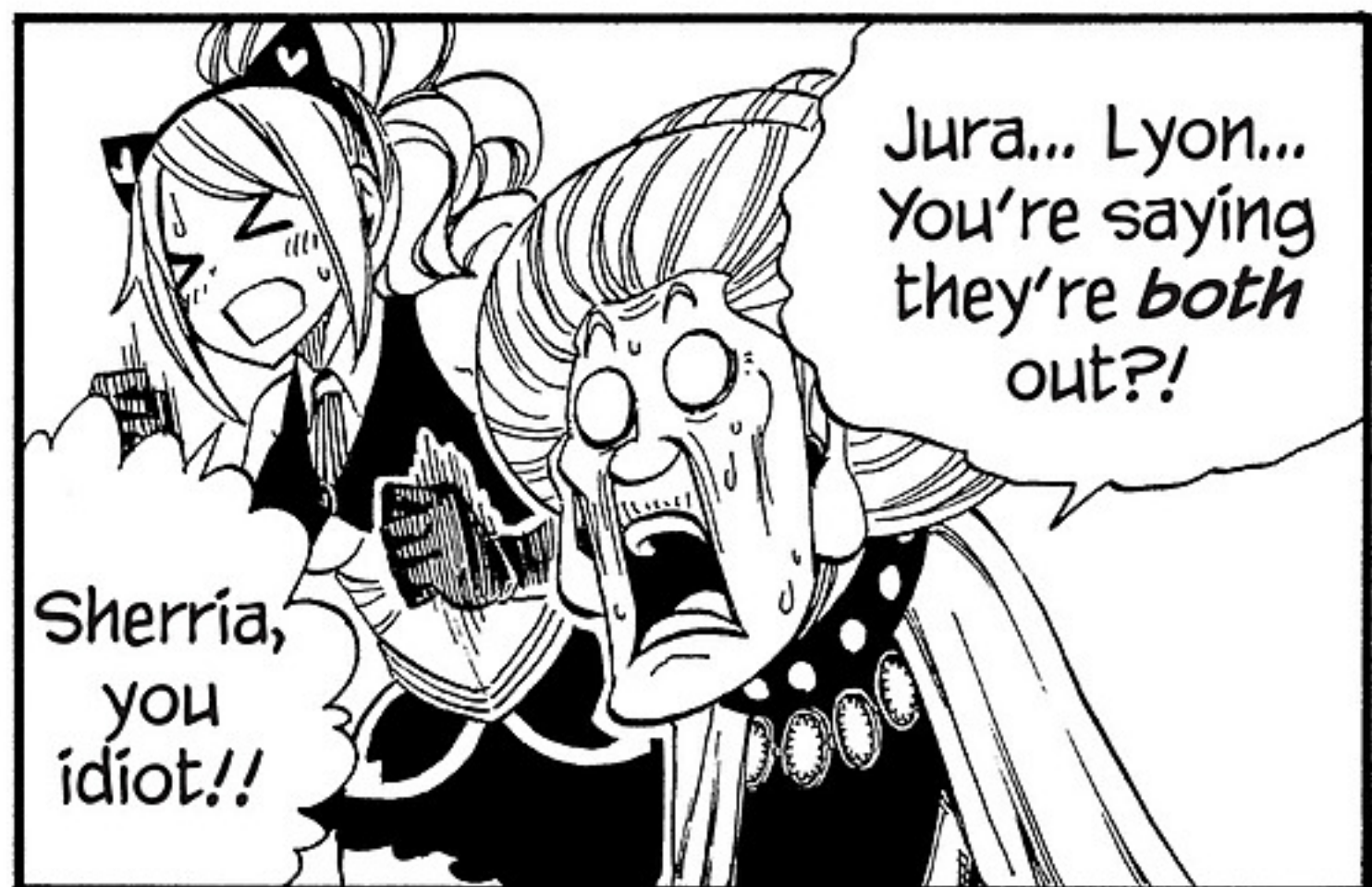
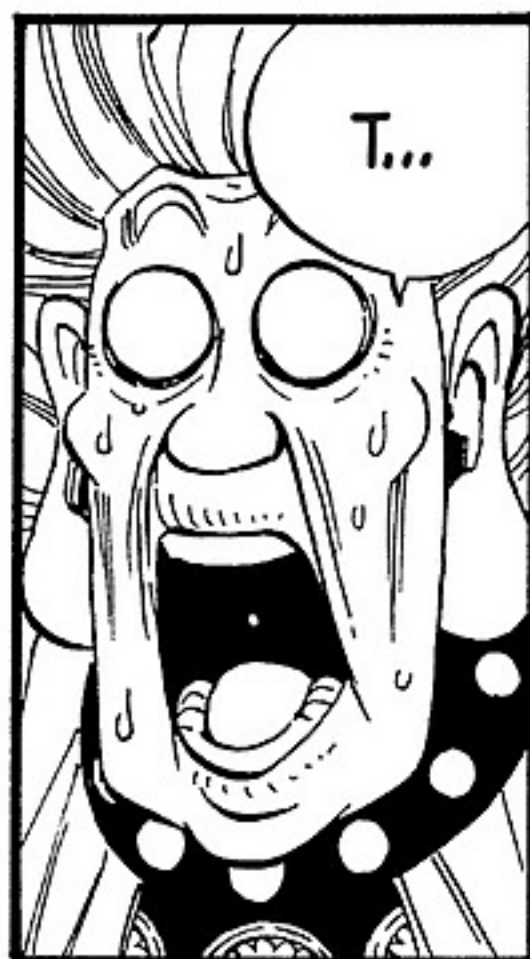
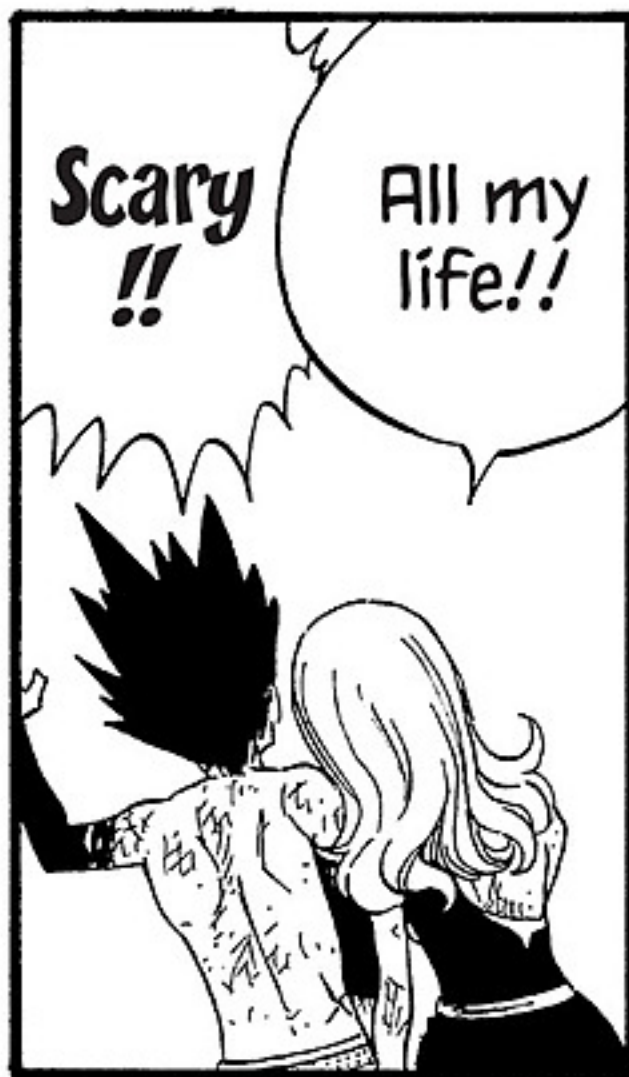




 **FAIRYTAIL**

Gooooooooo!!









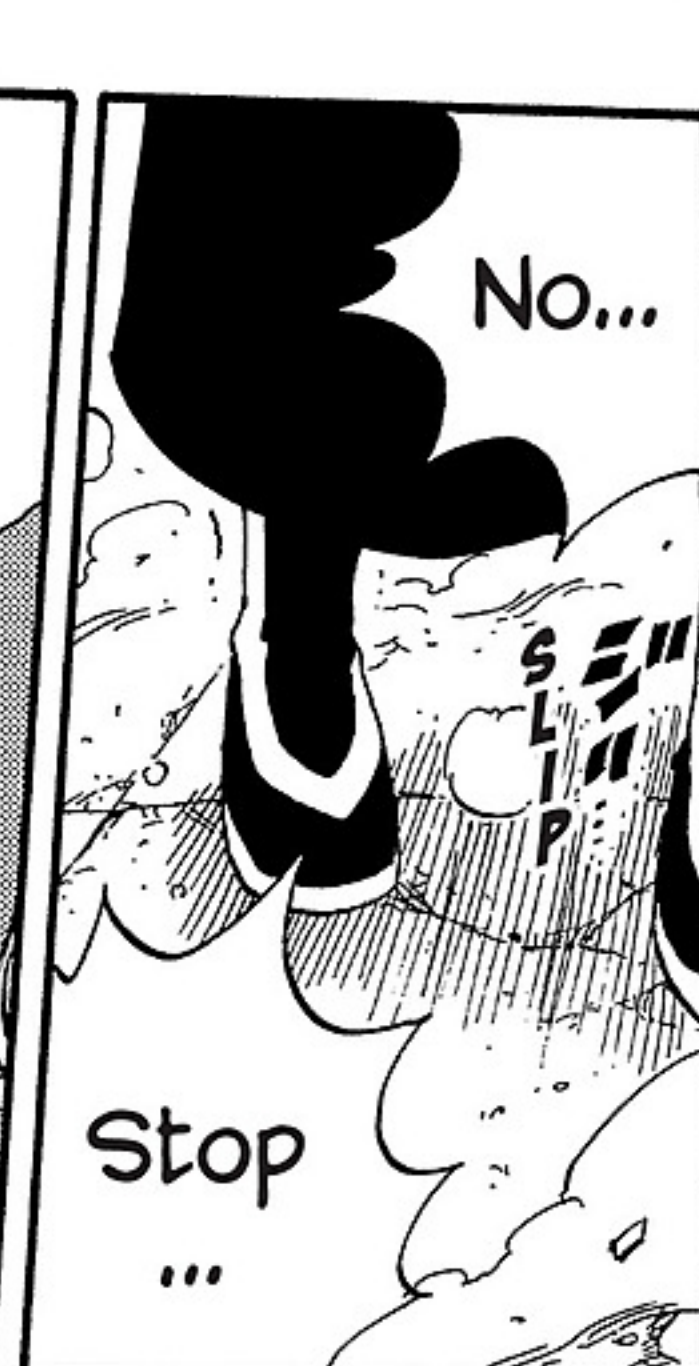
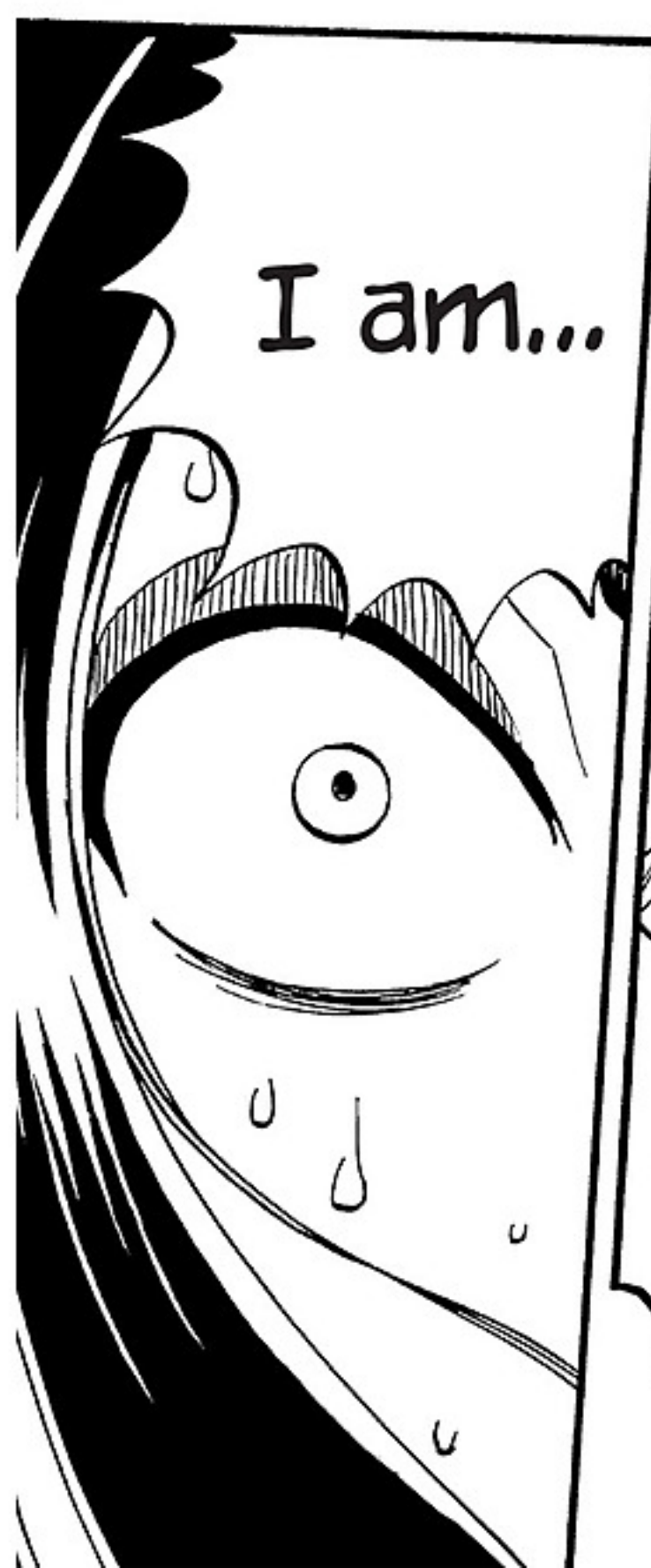
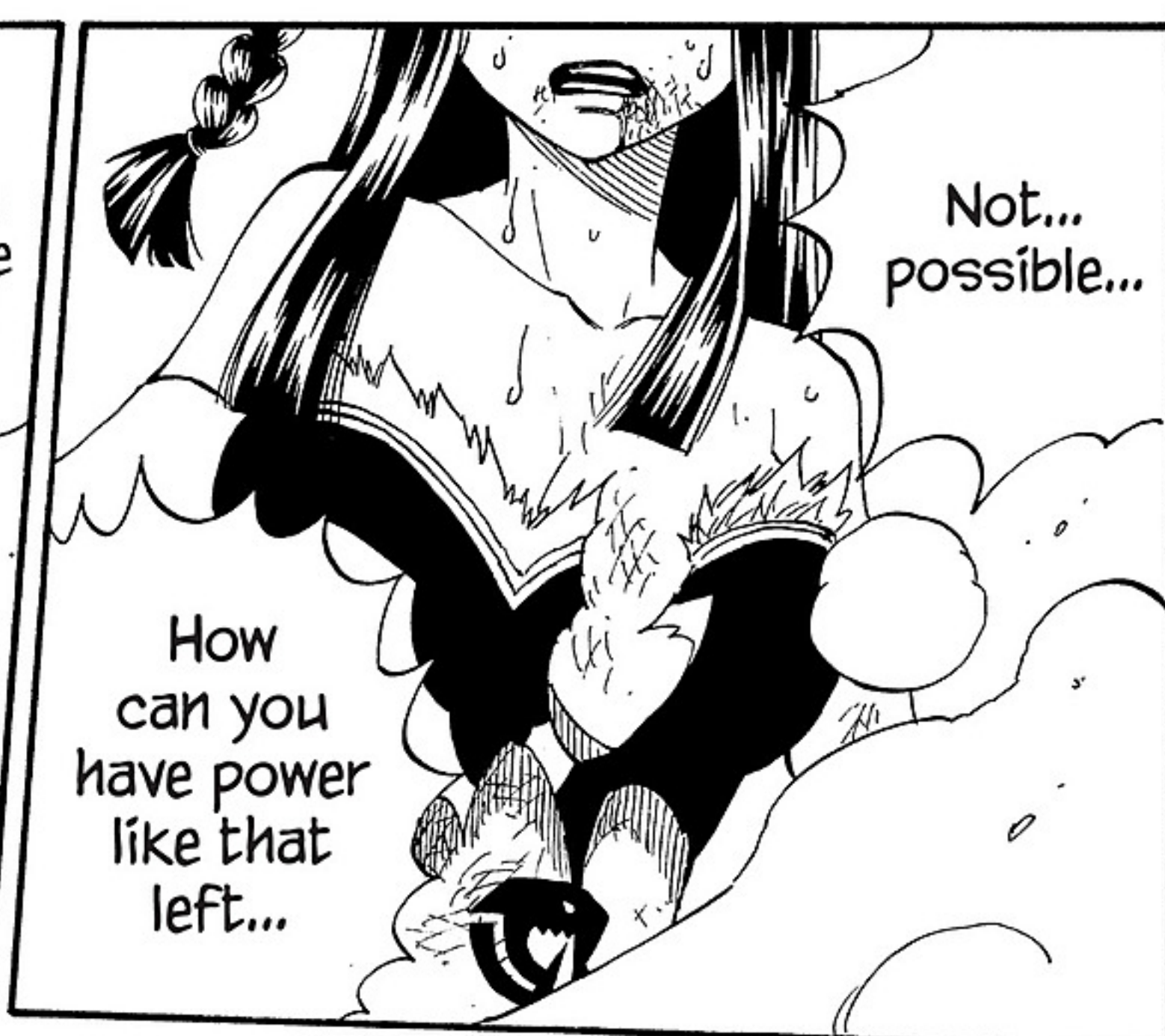
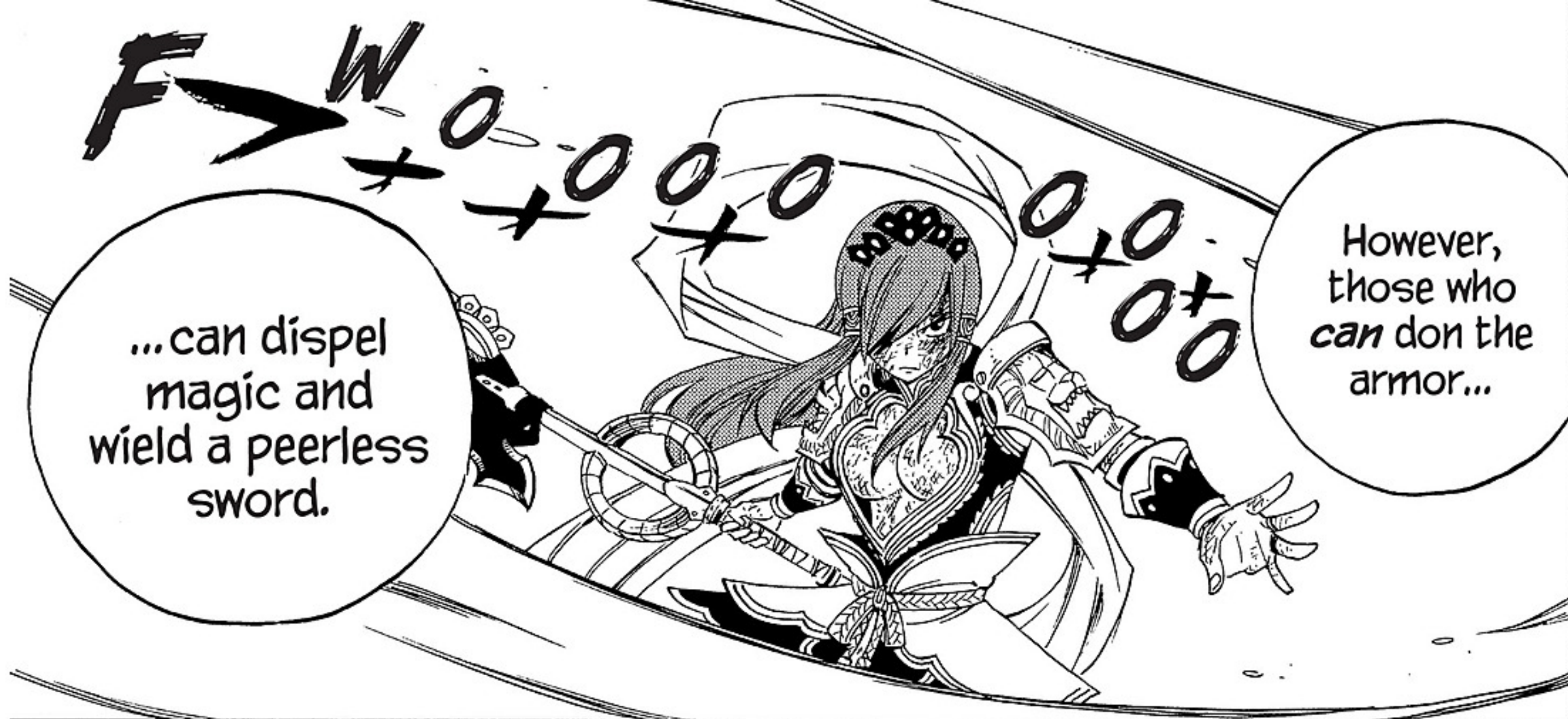
This will
be the
end!

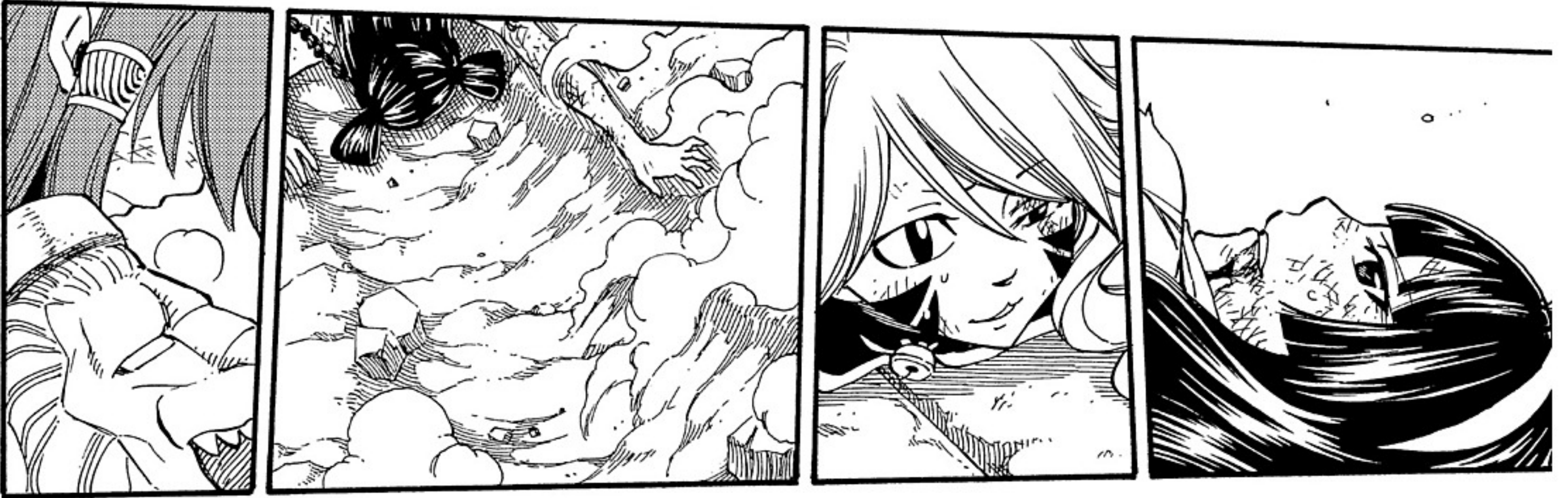


Ro hwaset!!
꺾.꺾.꺾.
(Trash!)

Ro hwasetya!!
꺾.꺾.꺾.꺾.꺾.꺾.
(You're only trash!)









NAKAGAMI:
ASTERISM
!!!!!!

ZWAAAT

1. Fairy Tail 63p
 2. Saber Tooth 55
~~Lamia Scale 50~~

ALSO JUST
 MOMENTS AGO
 GRAY AND JUVIA
 ELIMINATED LYON
 AND SHERRIA TO
 GIVE THEM TWO
 MORE POINTS!!!!

IT'S
 ERZA
 !!!!

SHE JUST
 TOOK DOWN
 THE SABER
 TOOTH LEADER
 AND EARNED
 FIVE POINTS!!!!

FAIRY TAIL
 IS STRONG!!!
 ALMOST TOO
 STRONG!!!!

CAN THEY WIN
 THIS WITHOUT
 LOSING A SINGLE
 MEMBER?!

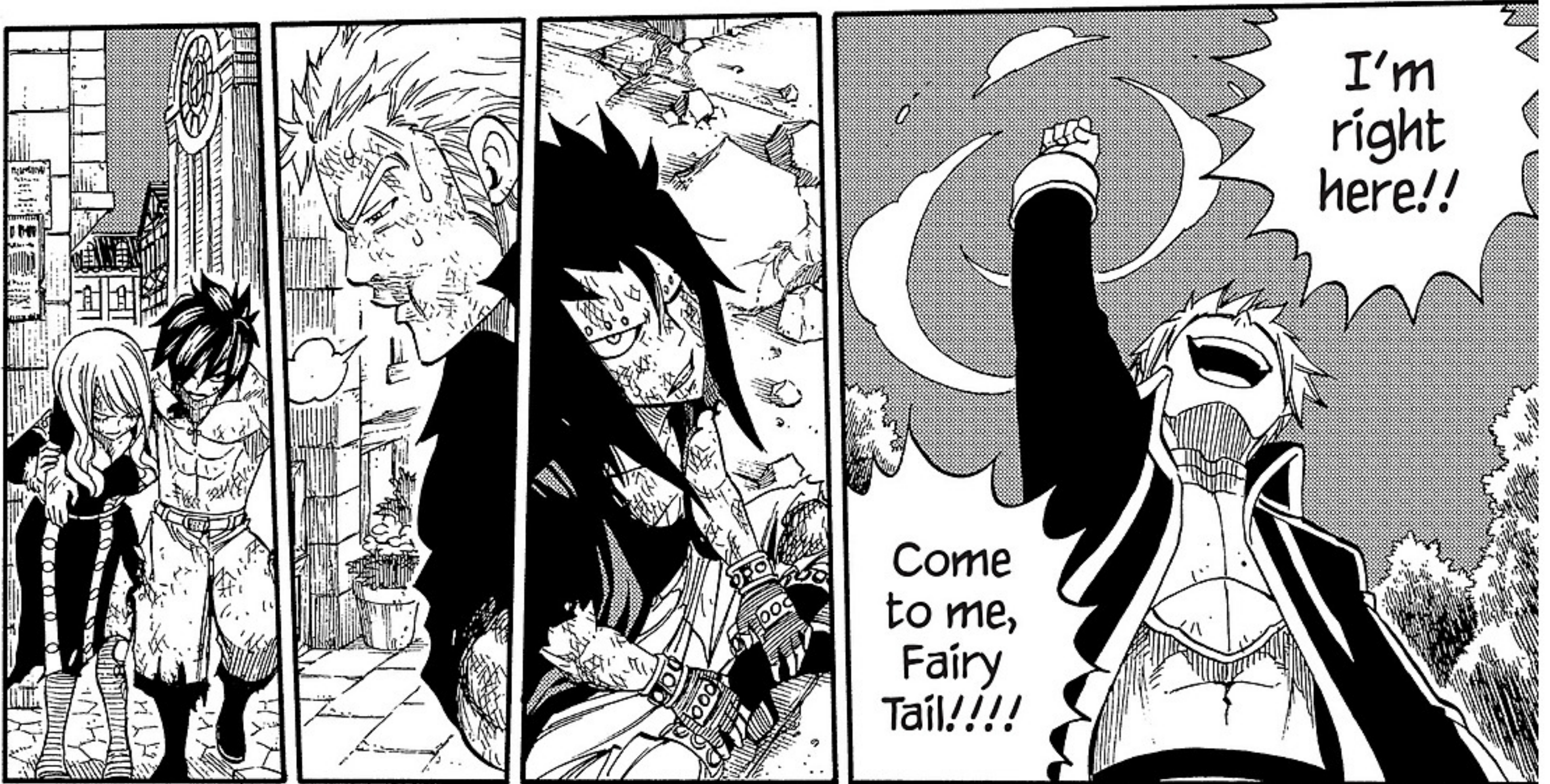
Hm... It may
 be fair to say
 that Fairy Tail is
 very close to a
 victory.

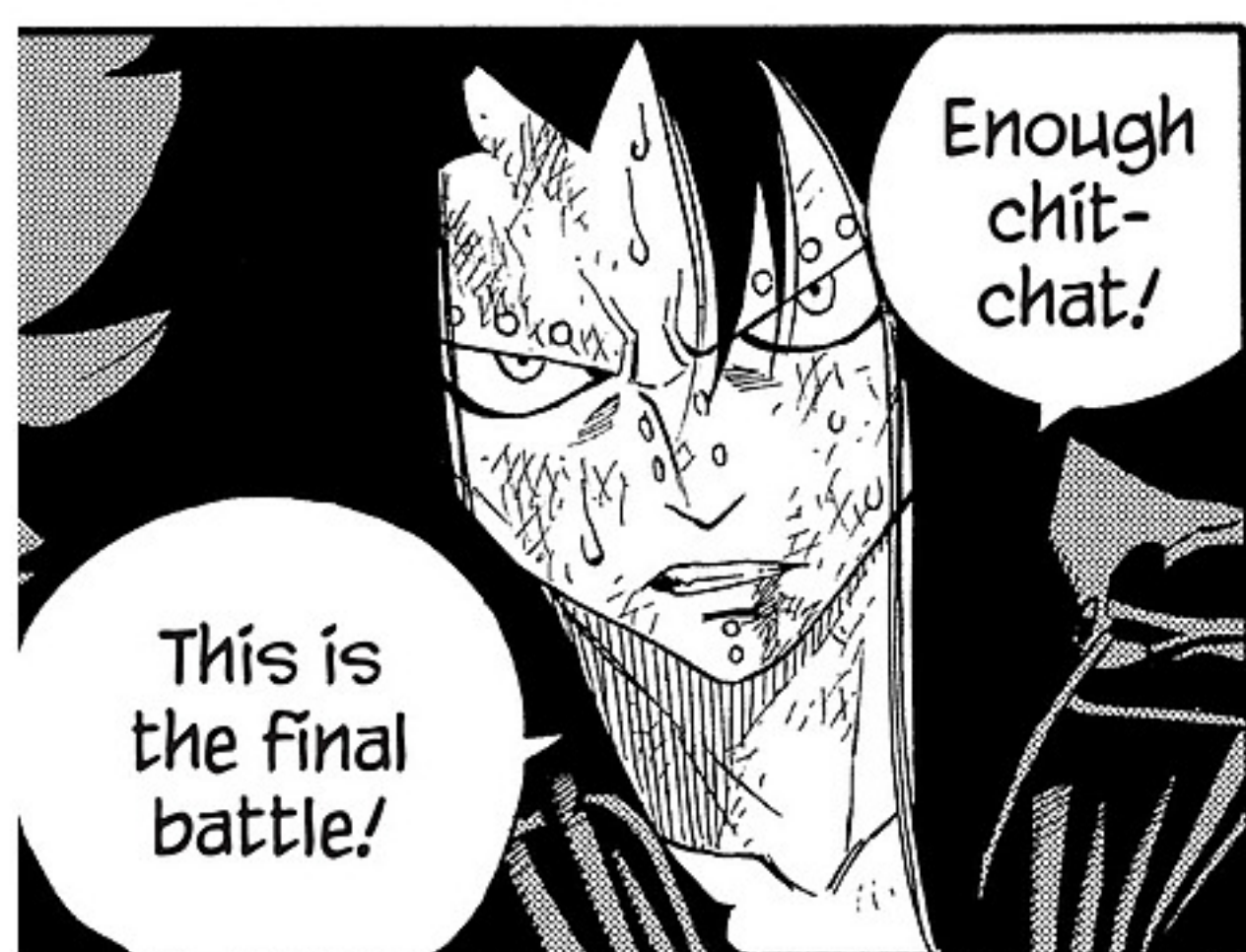
YAJIMA-
 SAN, CAN WE
 SAY THIS IS
 OVER...?

ONLY ONE
 OPPONENT IS
 LEFT: STING FROM
 SABER TOOTH!!!











**That's
exactly why
I'll crush
you all at
once!!!!**

**I've been
waiting
for this
moment!!!!**

**I'm going
to show
Lecter just
how strong
I am!!!!**

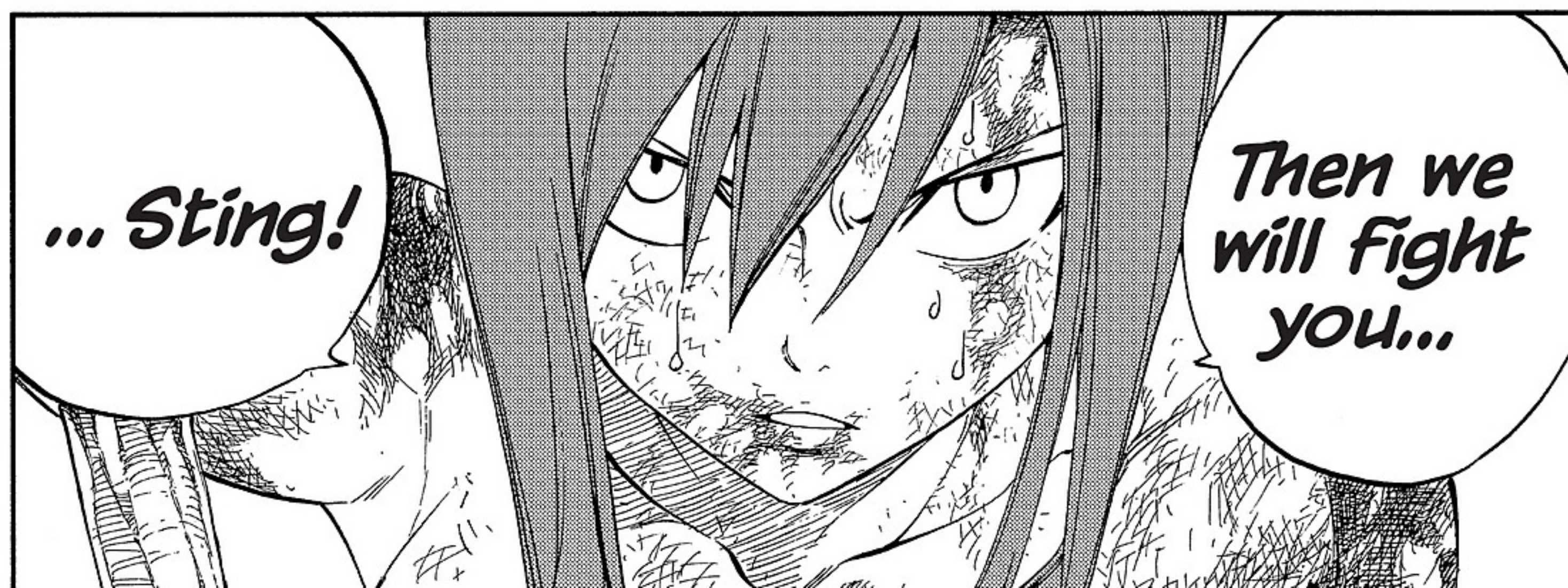


**Very
well!**

**If you are
prepared
for the
outcome...**

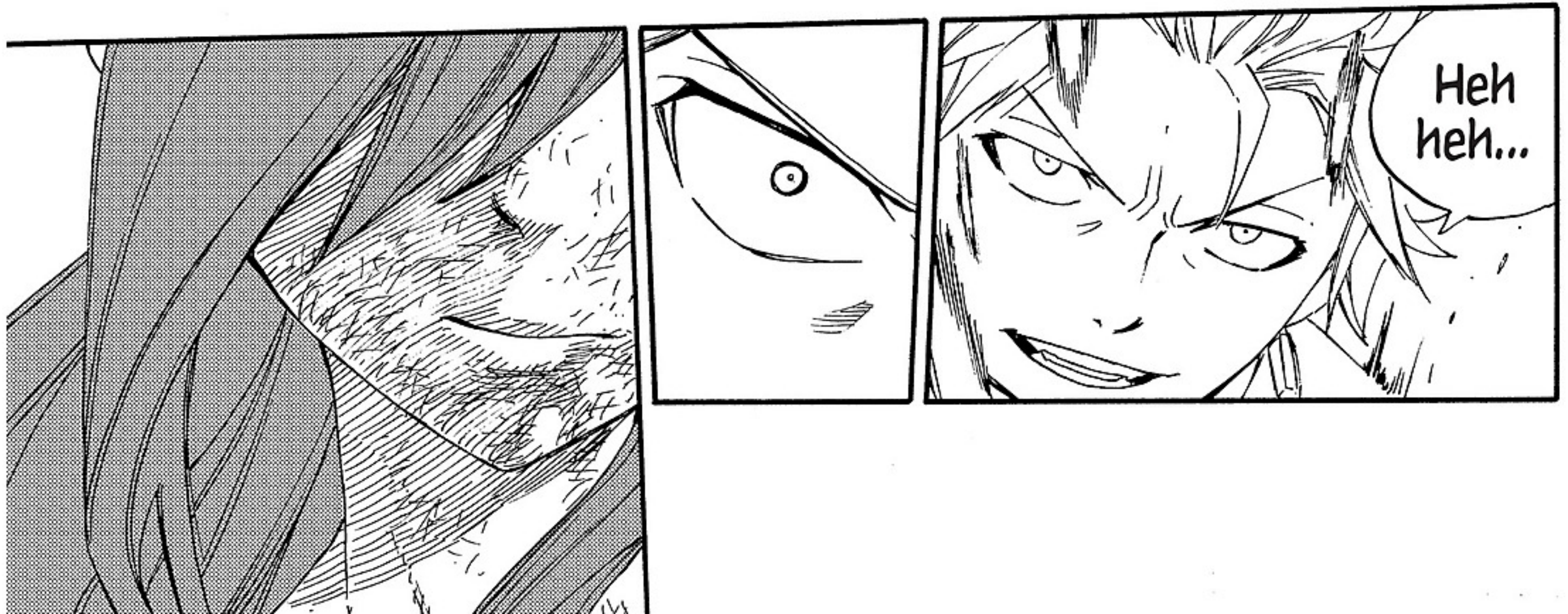
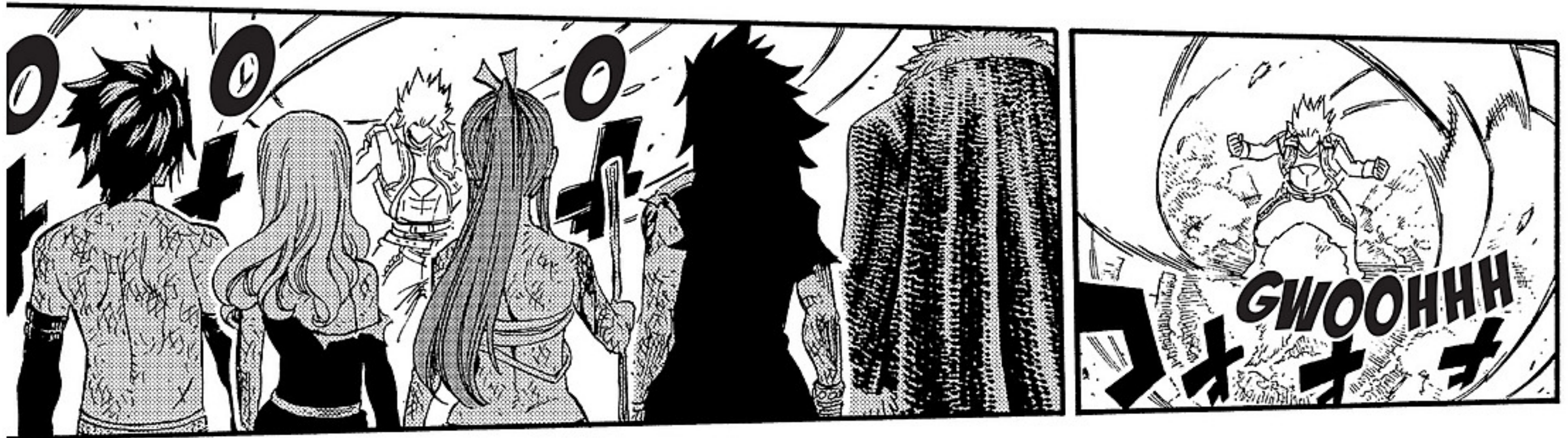


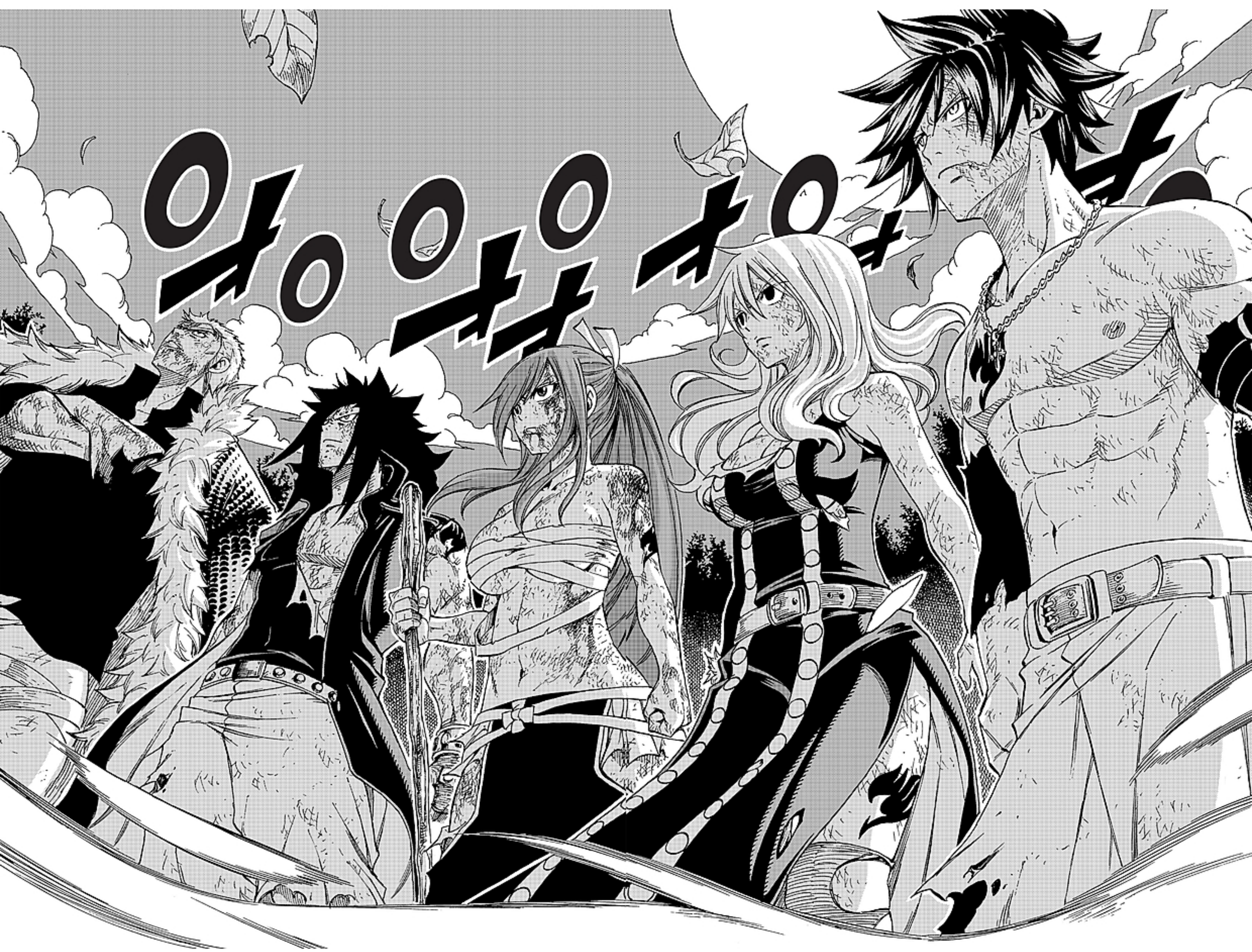
**I ain't got
a clue what
you're saying,
but you're
serious?**

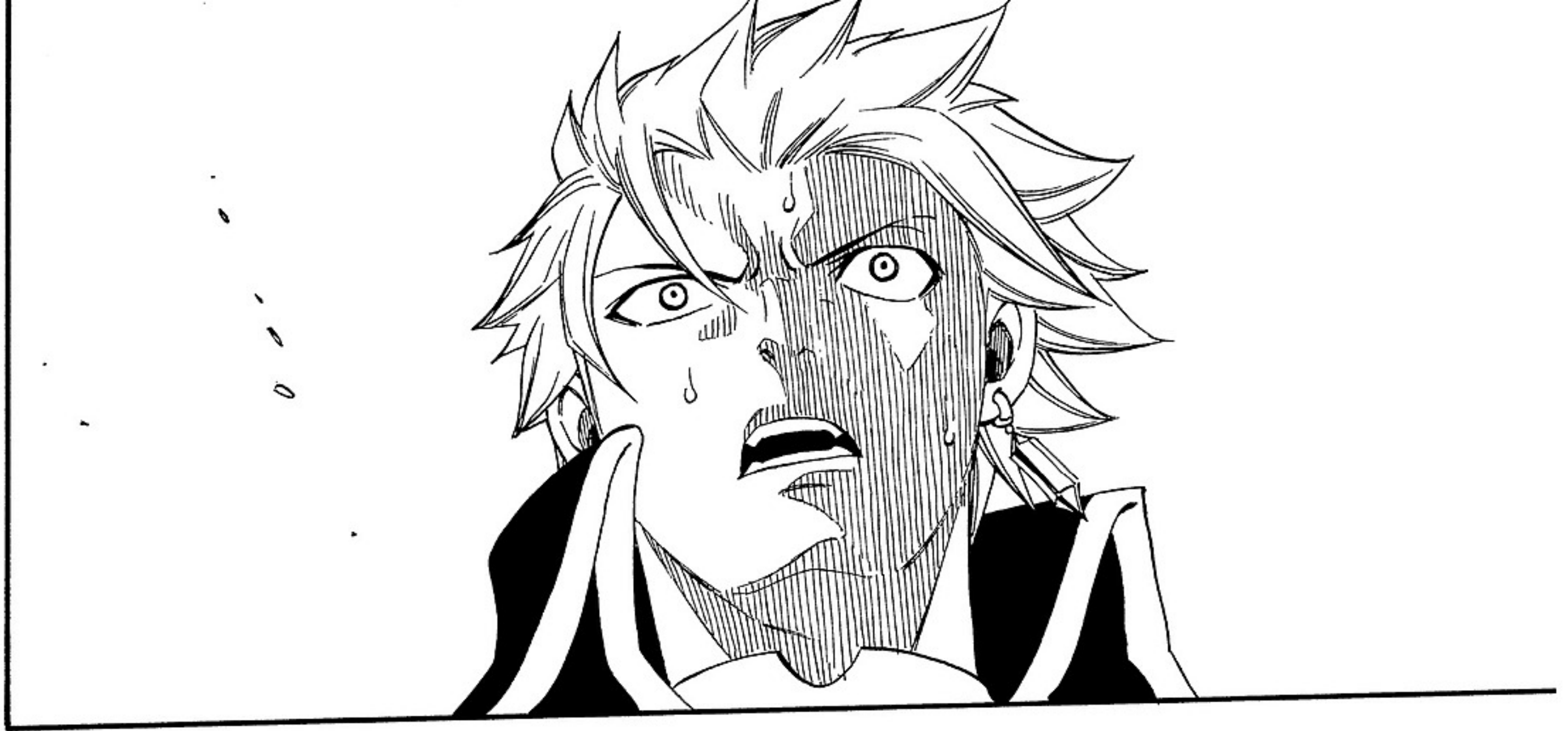


... Sting!

**Then we
will fight
you...**







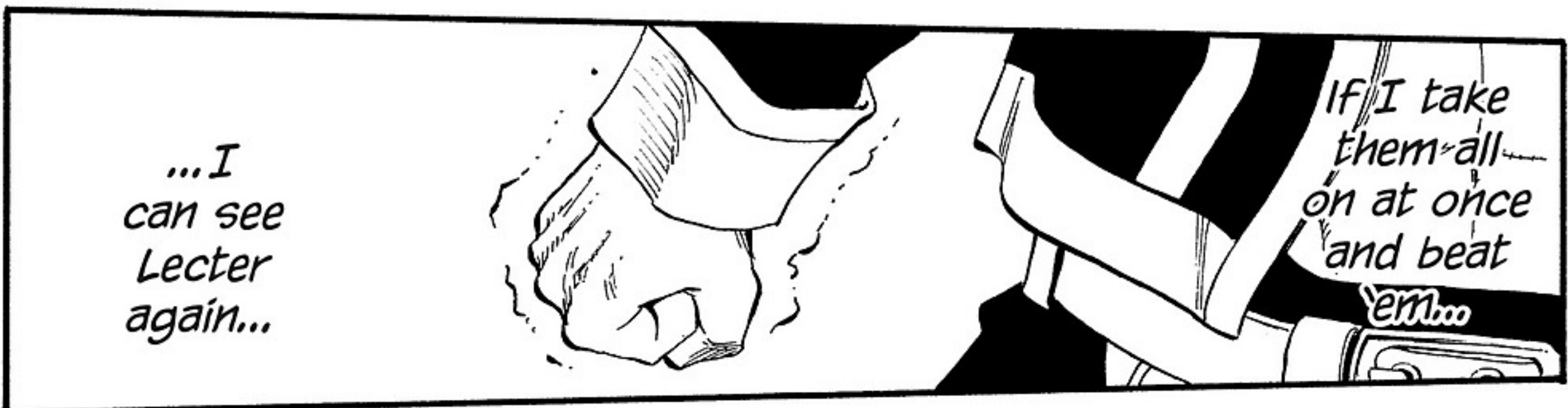
And I've come this far, right?!!



They're so beaten up, the slightest push would take them down...



Wait... they're all on their last legs...



...I can see Lecter again...

If I take them all on at once and beat 'em...



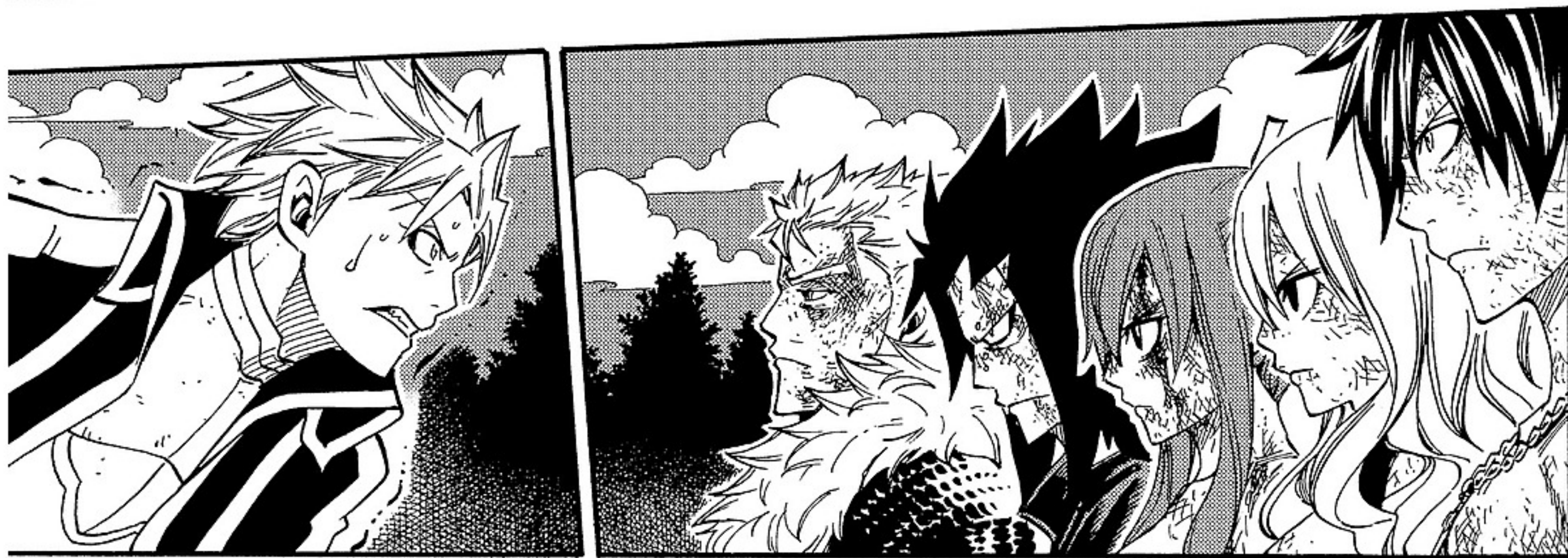
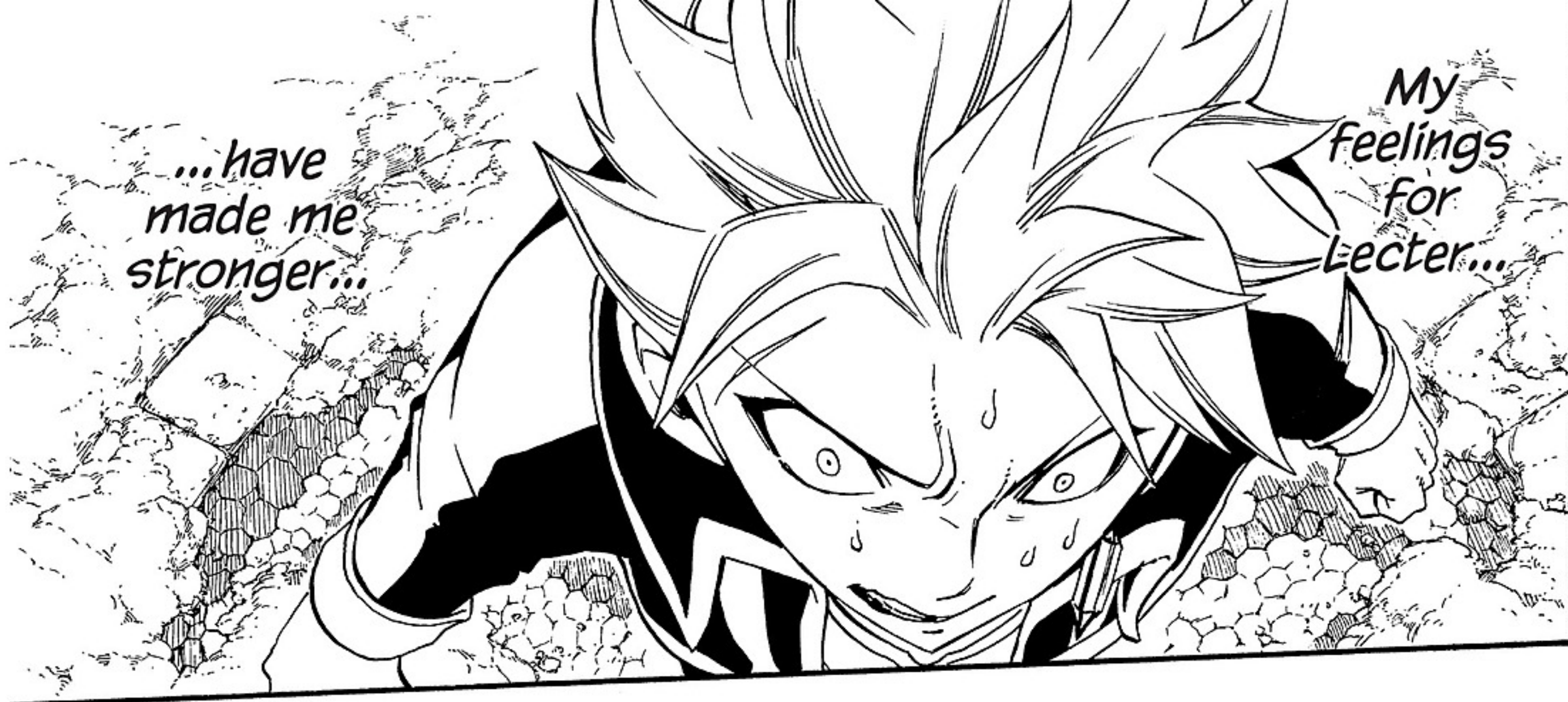
I've gotten so strong!!!



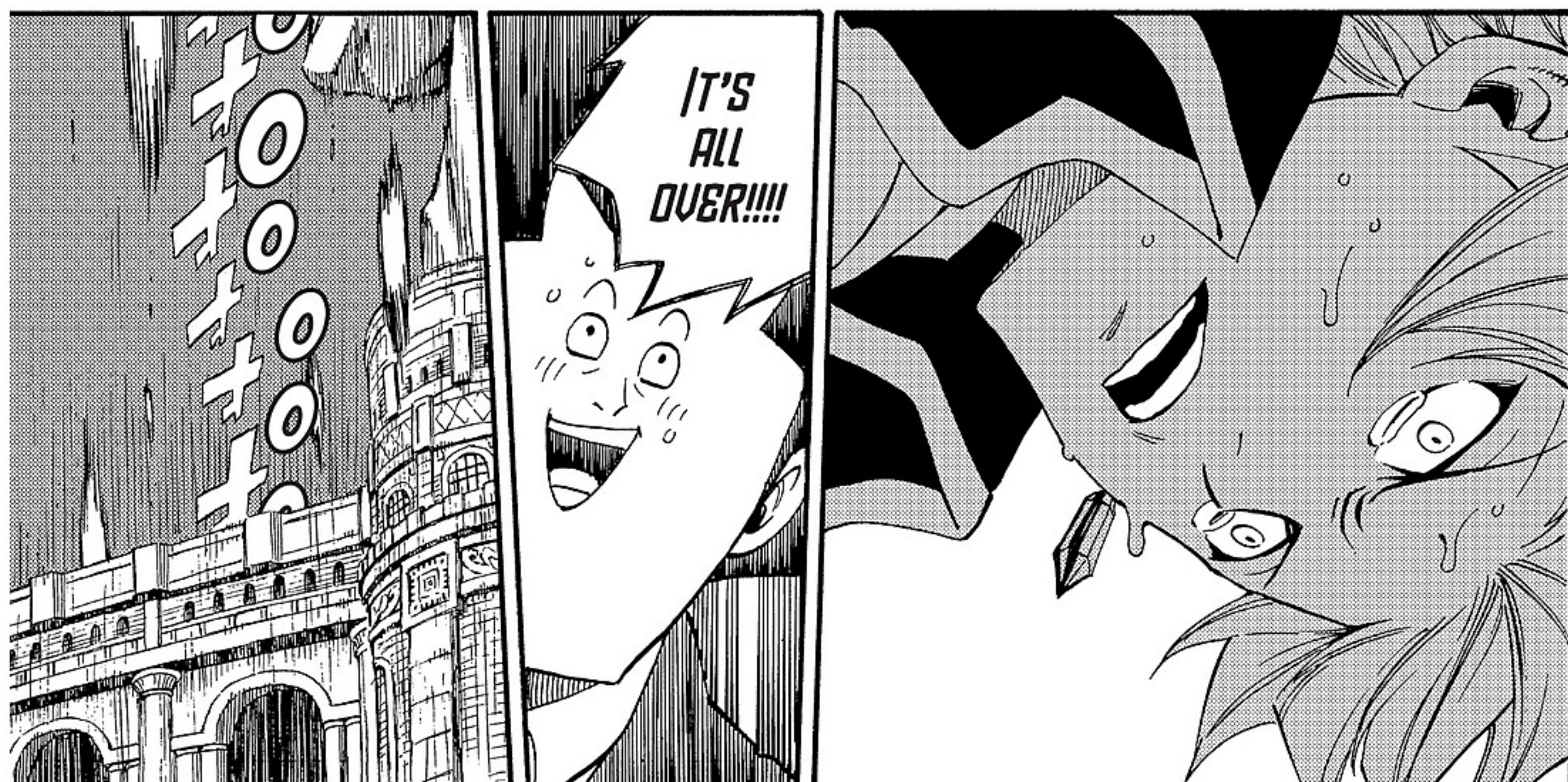
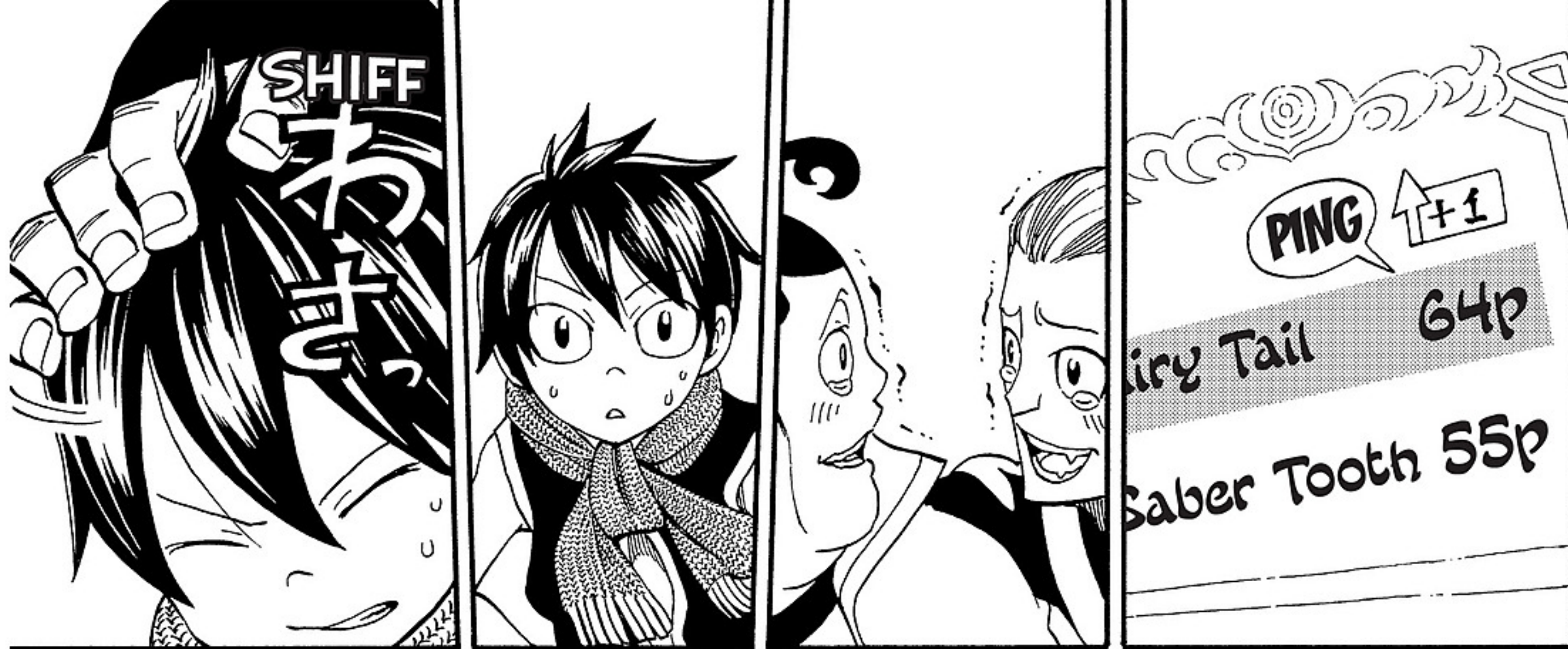
I gotta move forward...!!!



That's right!!! Lecter!!!



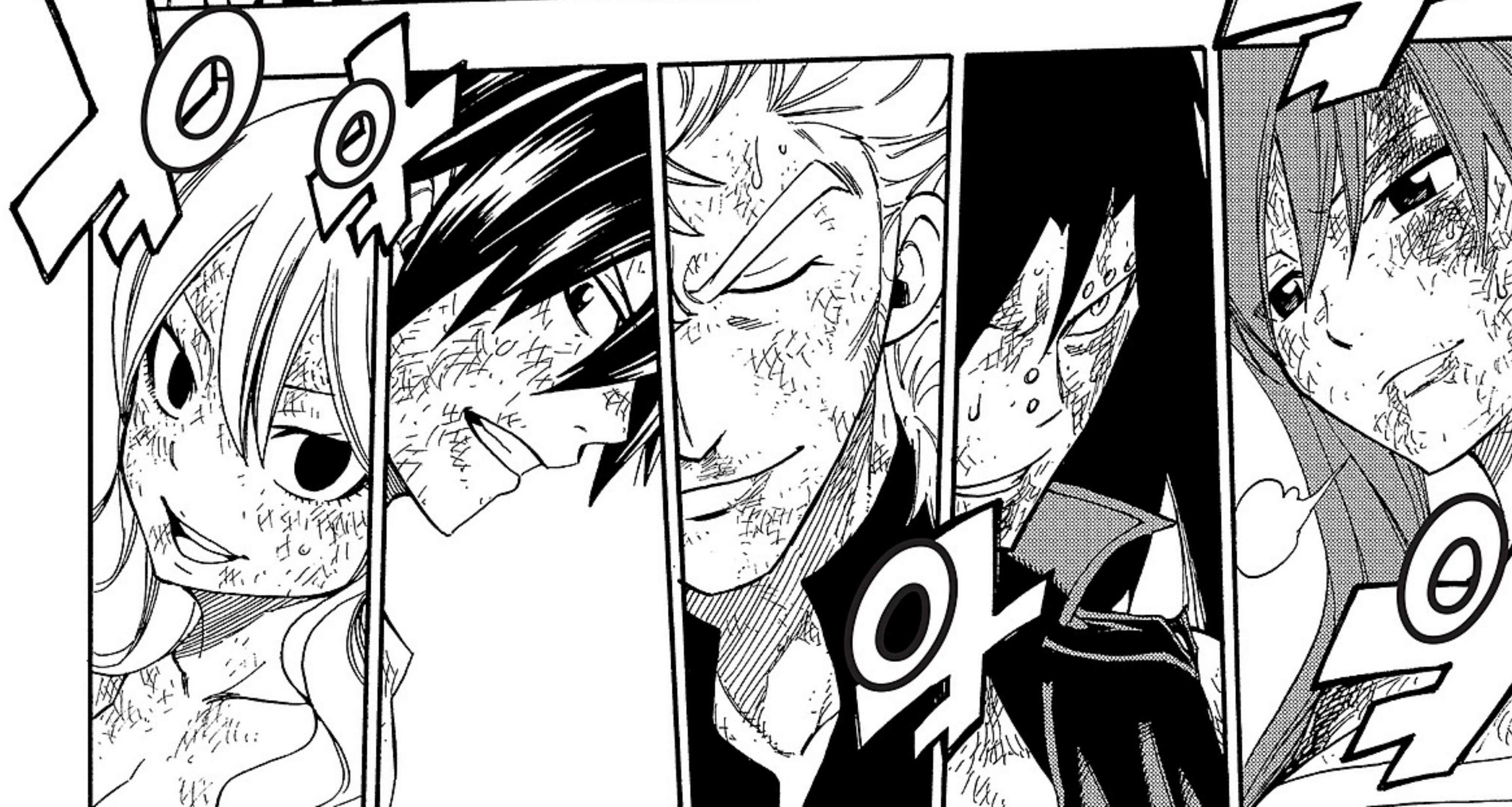


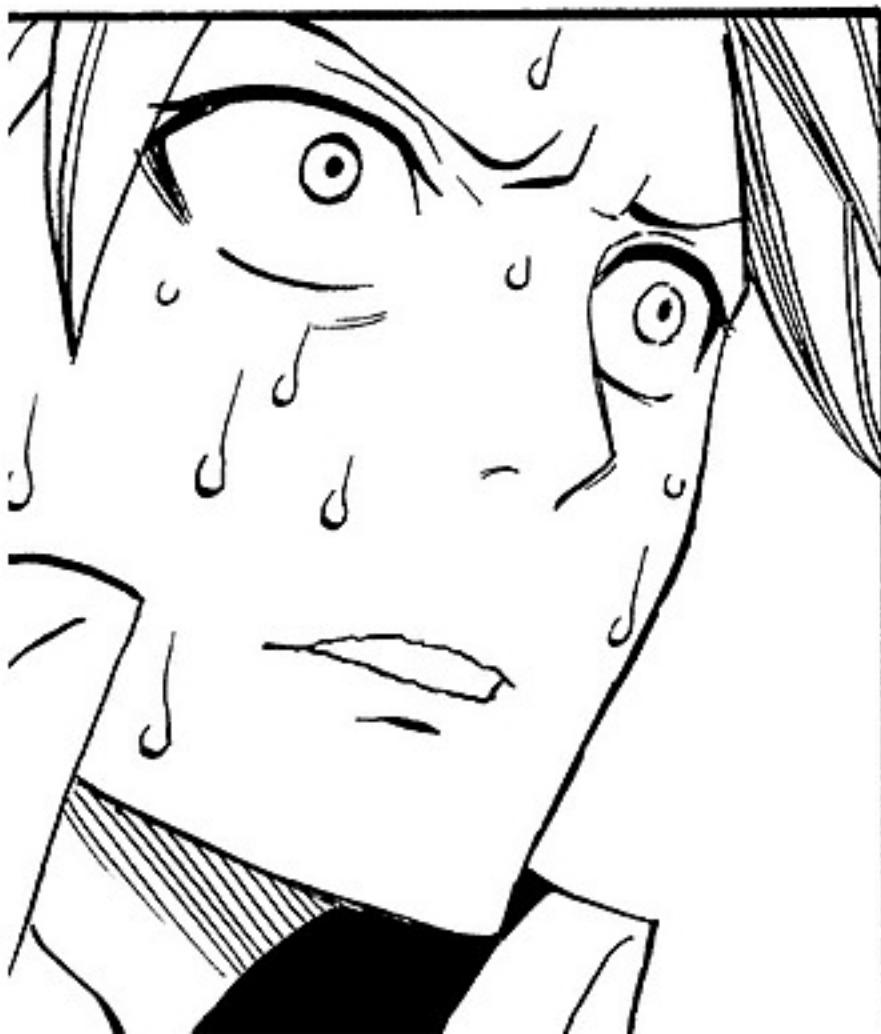
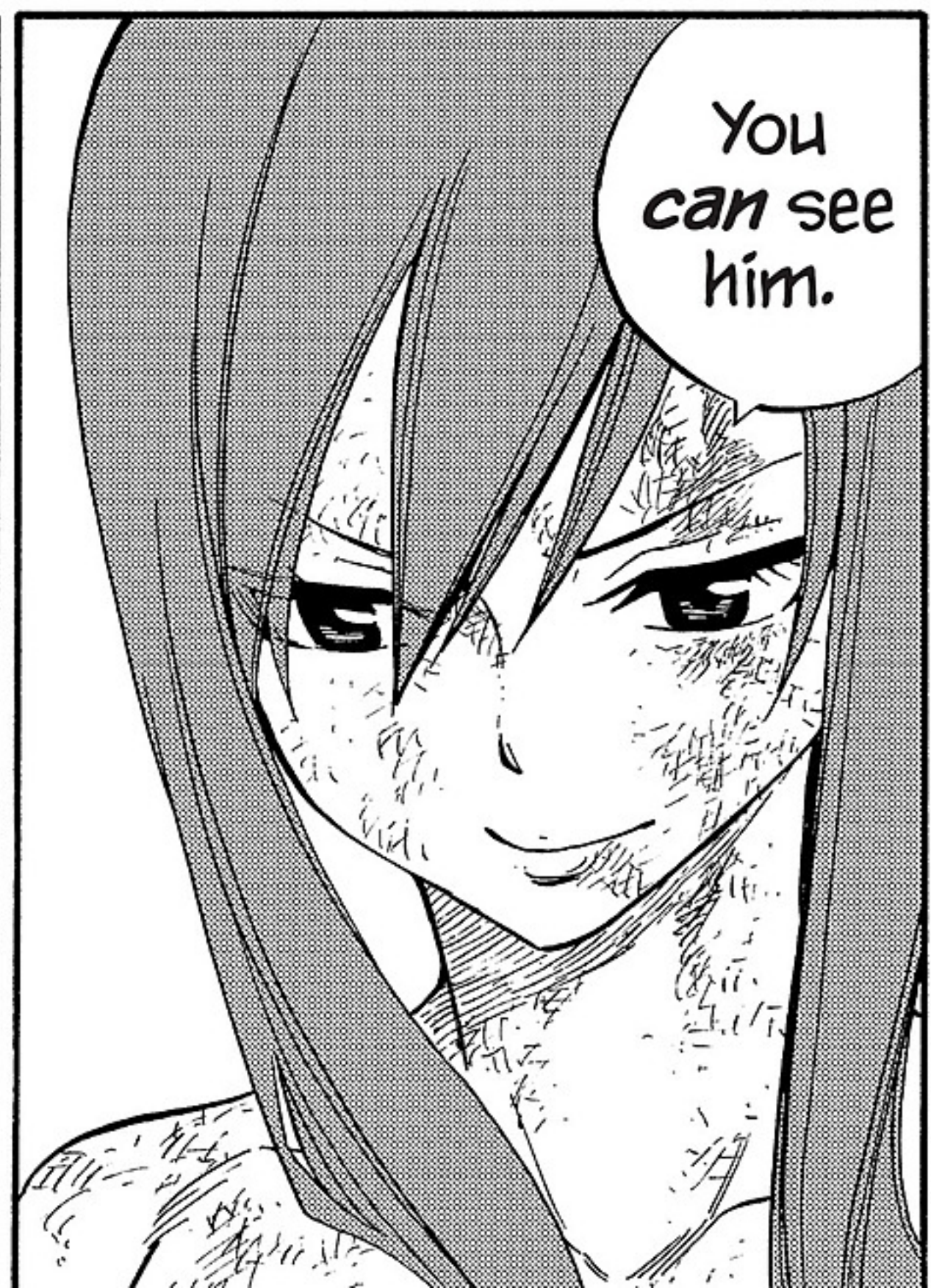
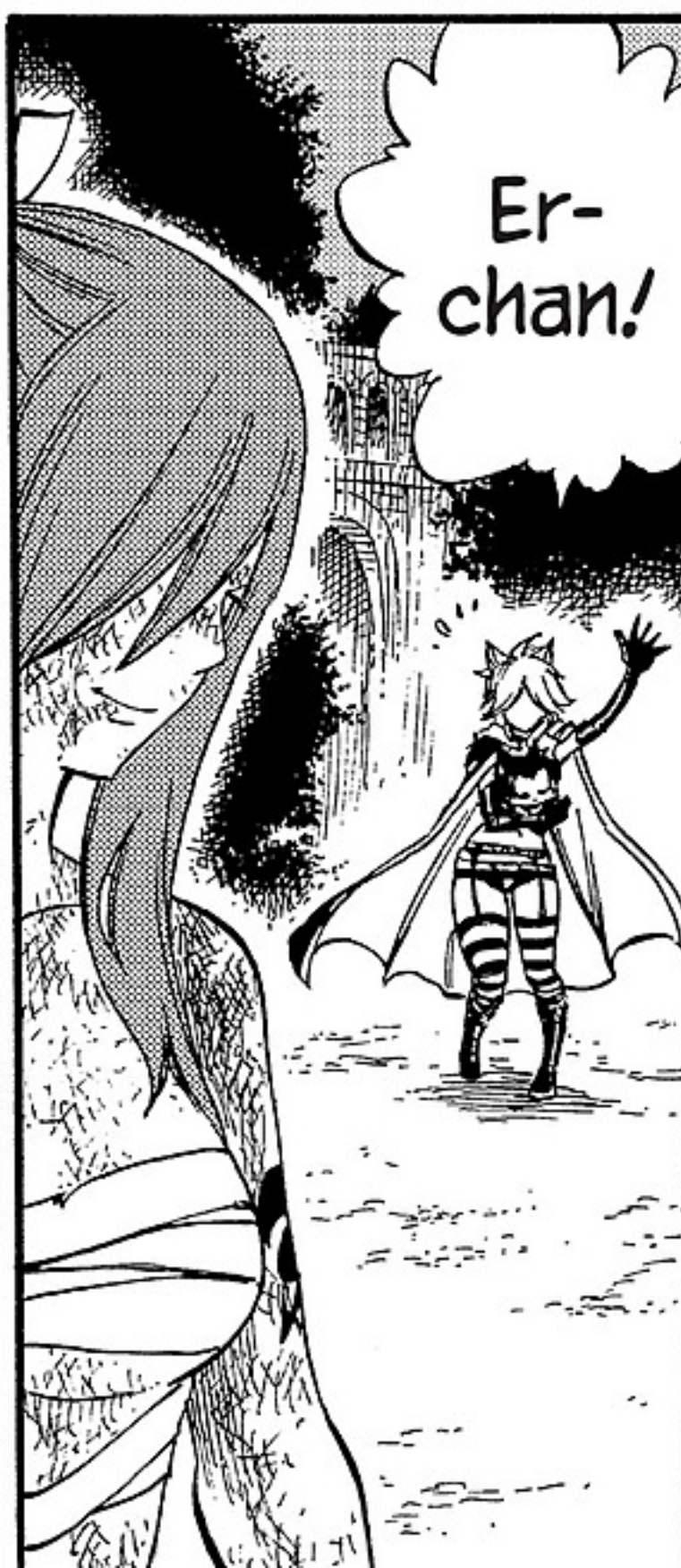
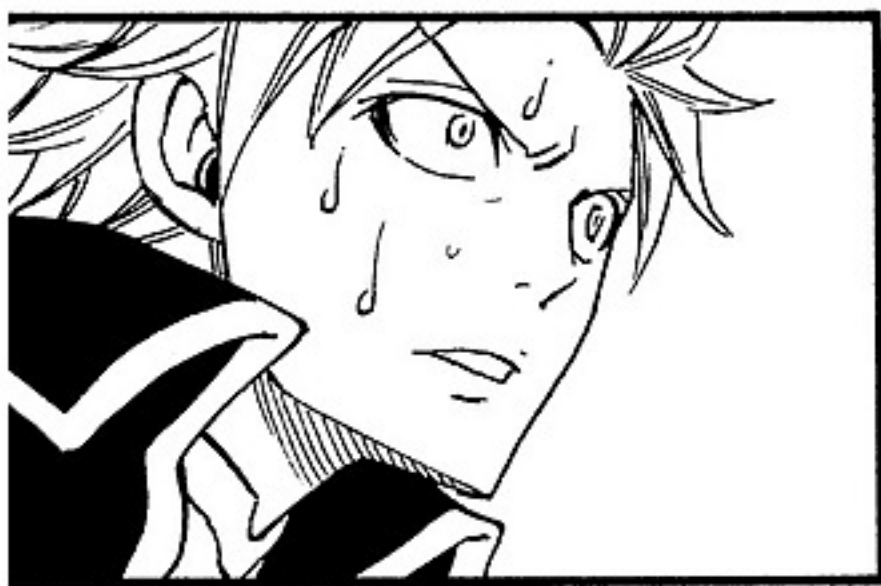
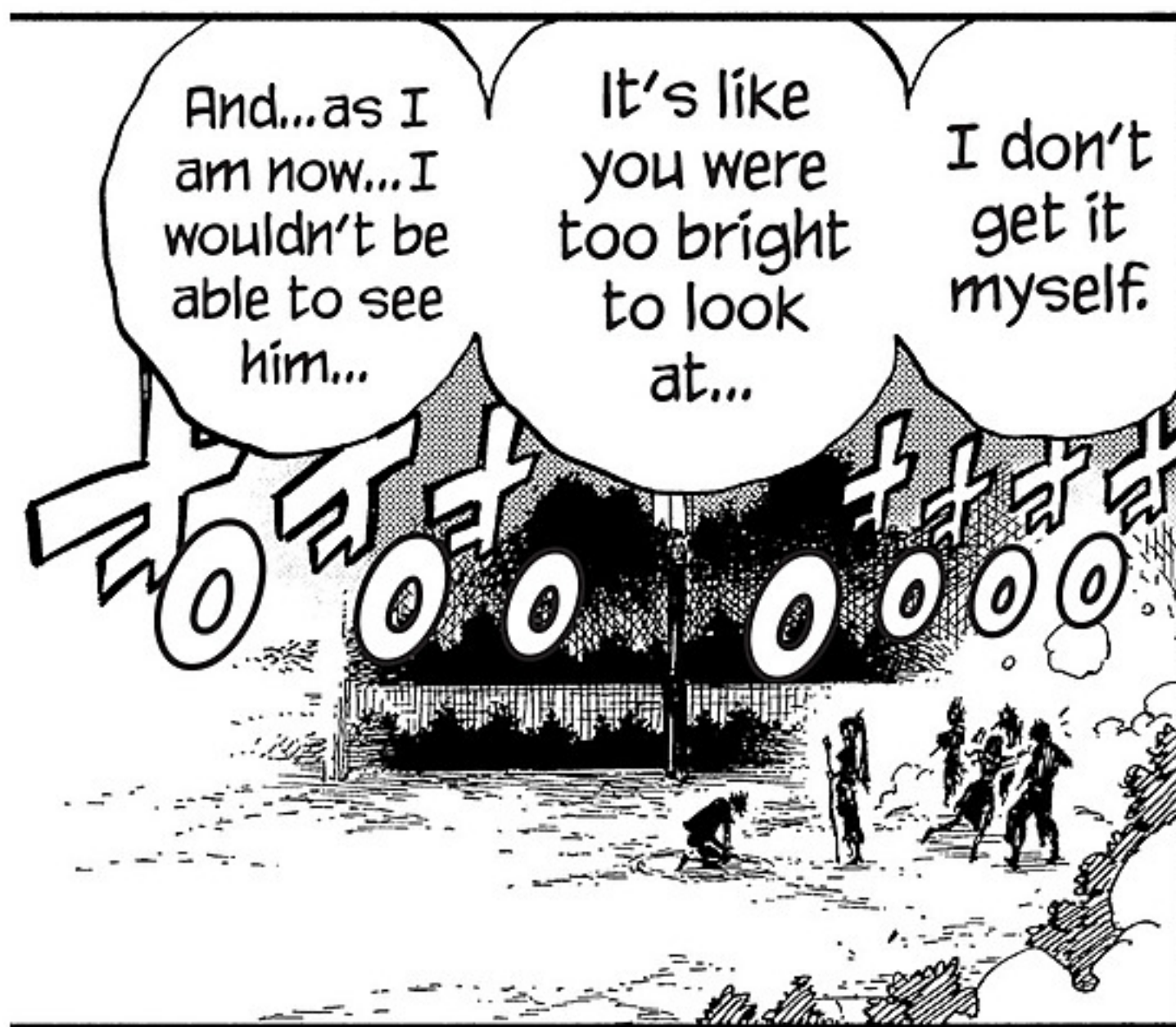


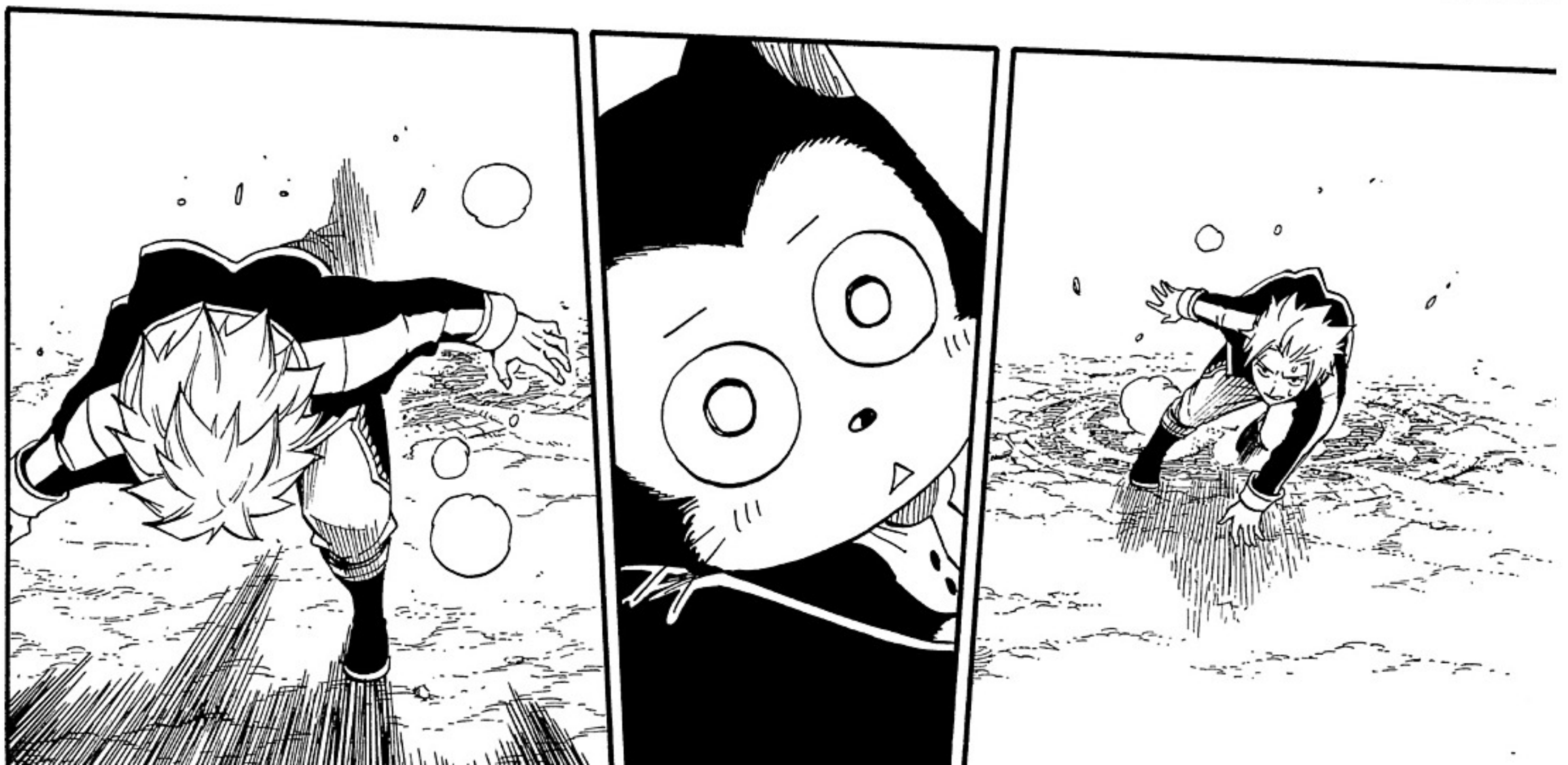
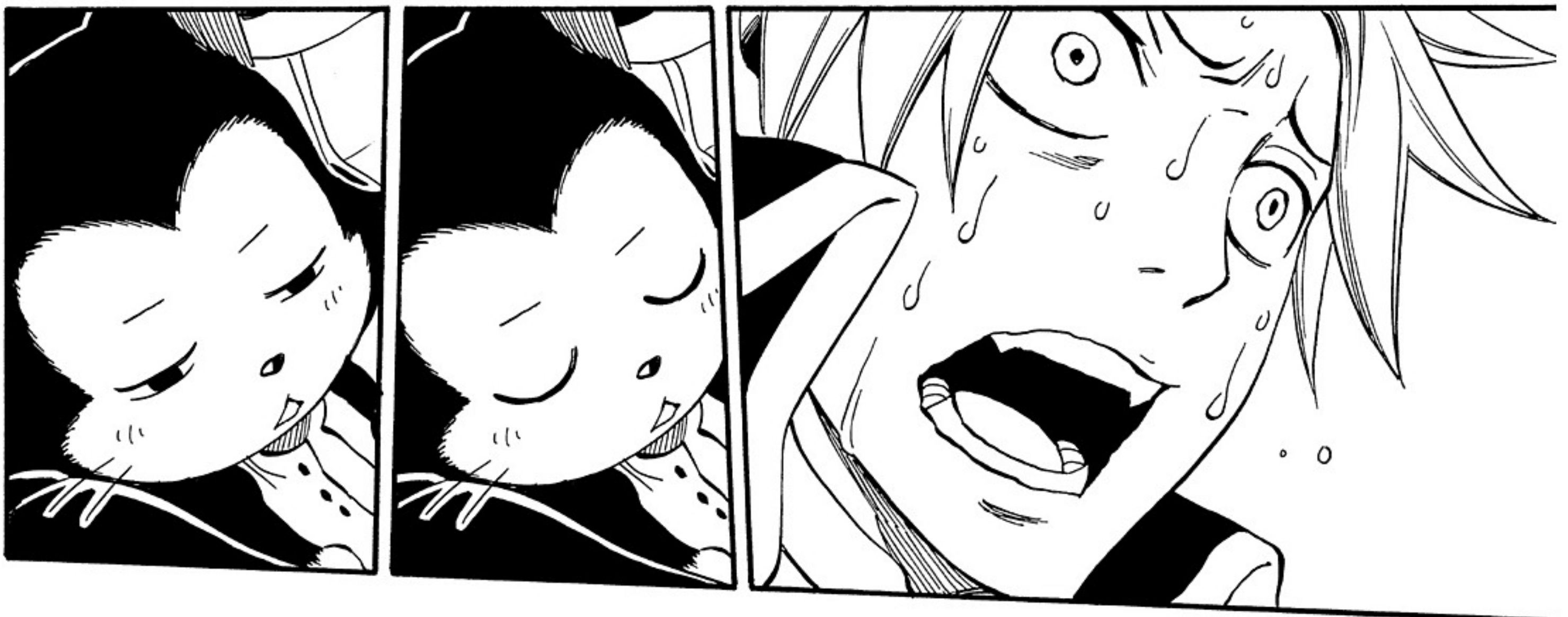


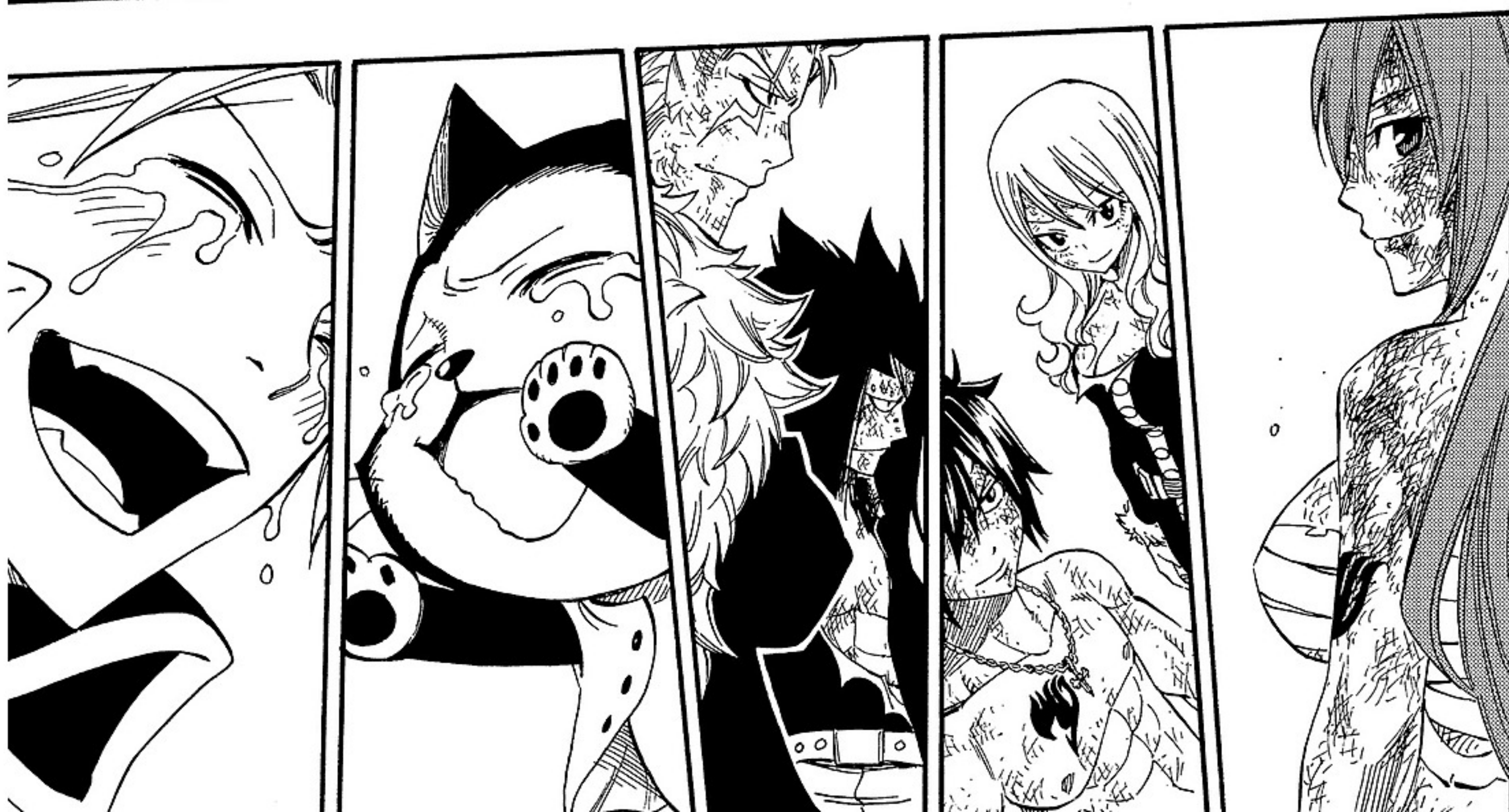
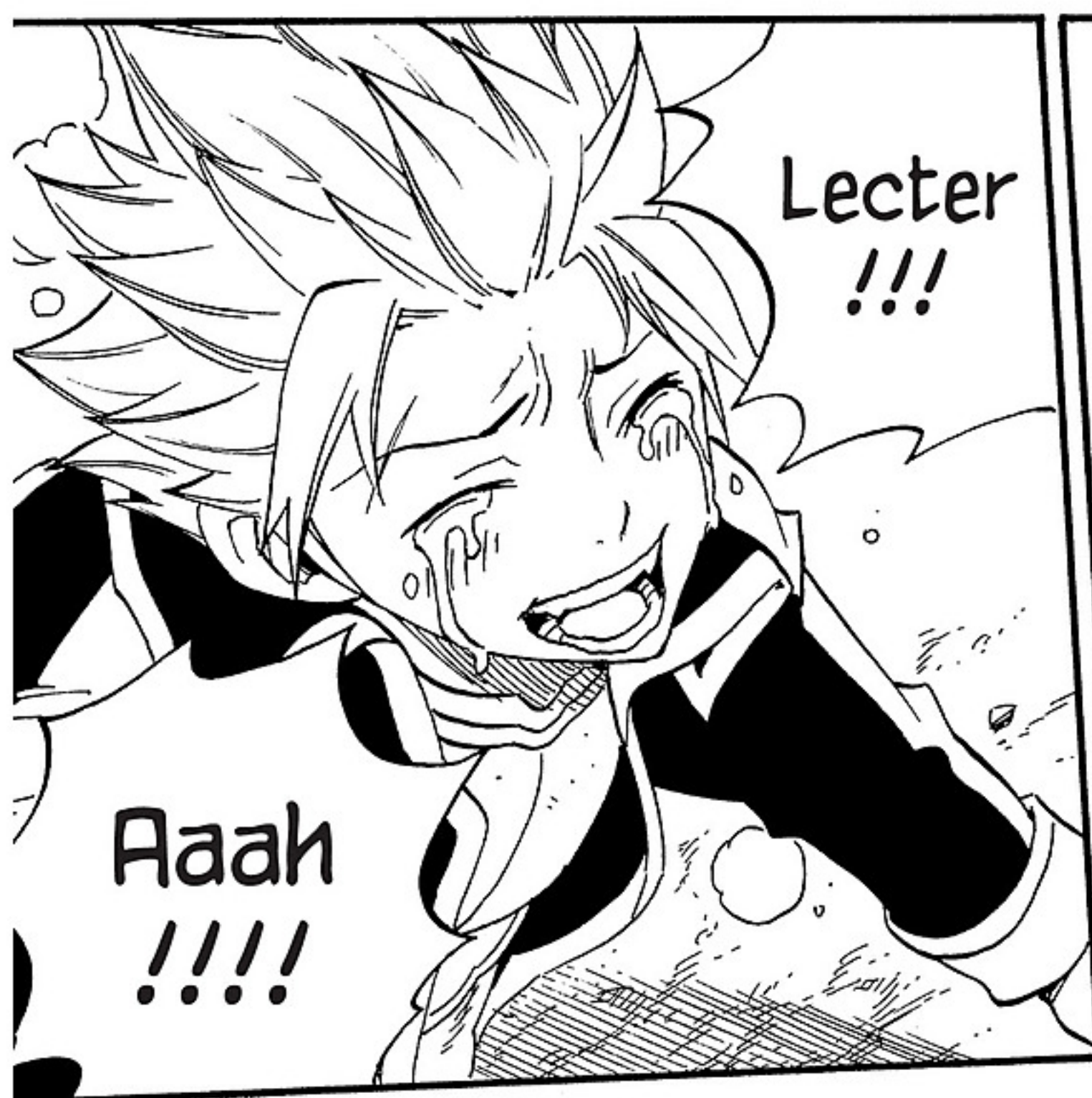
**...IS
FAIRY
TAIL!!!!**

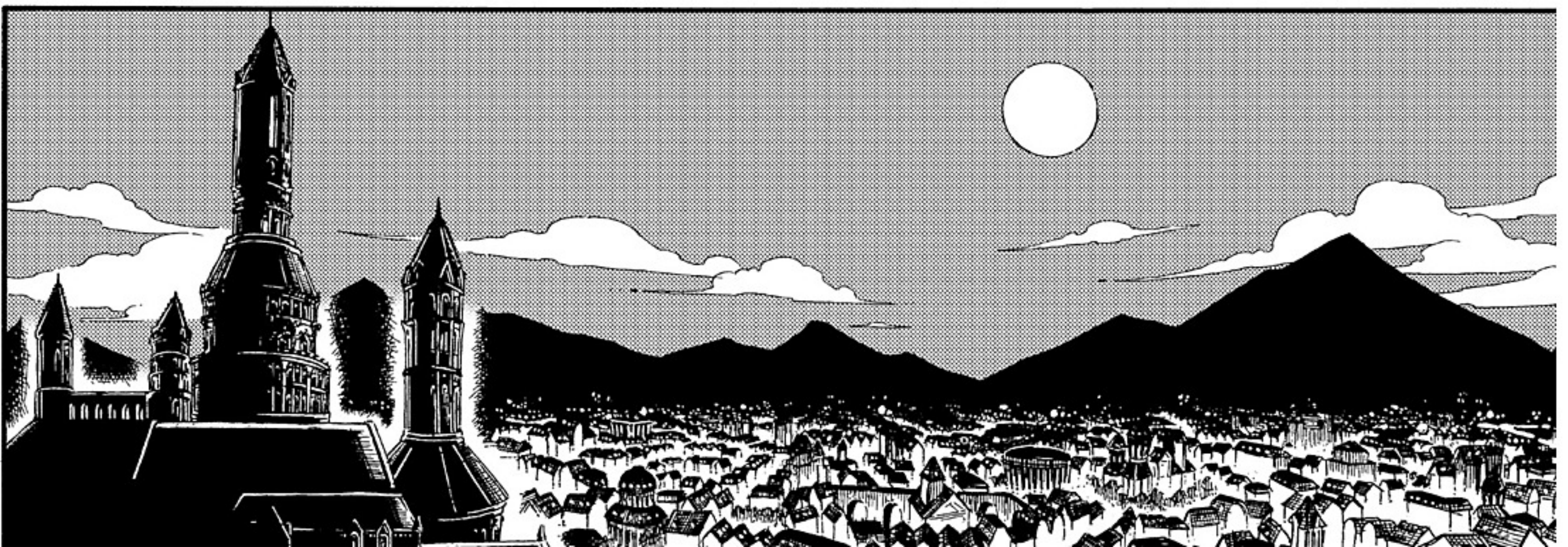
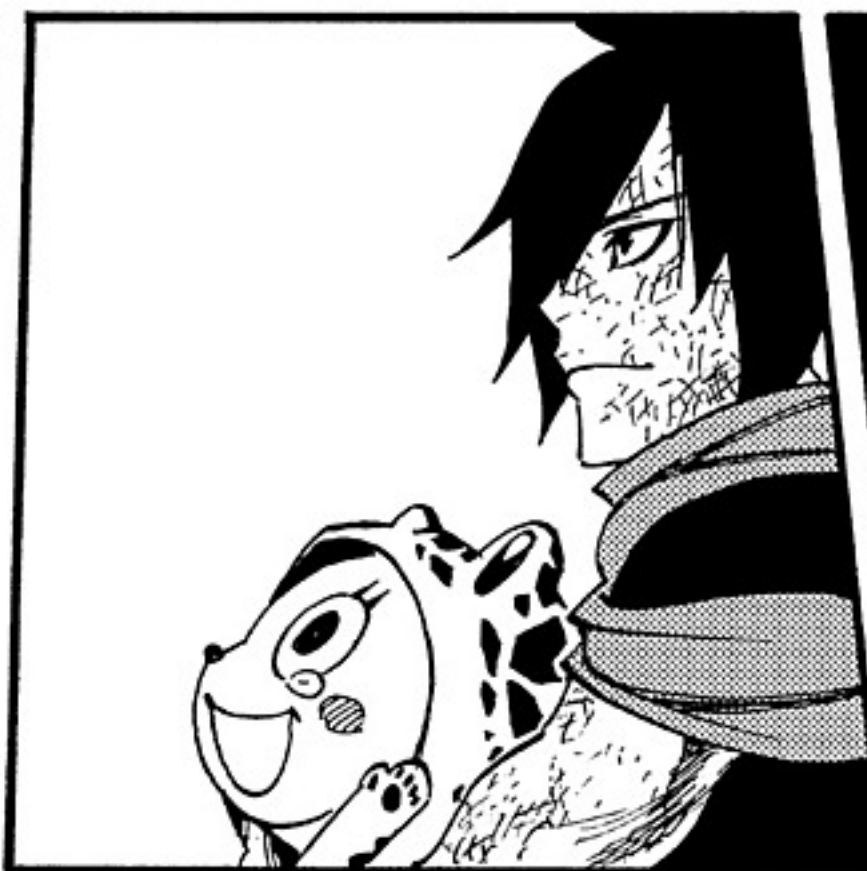
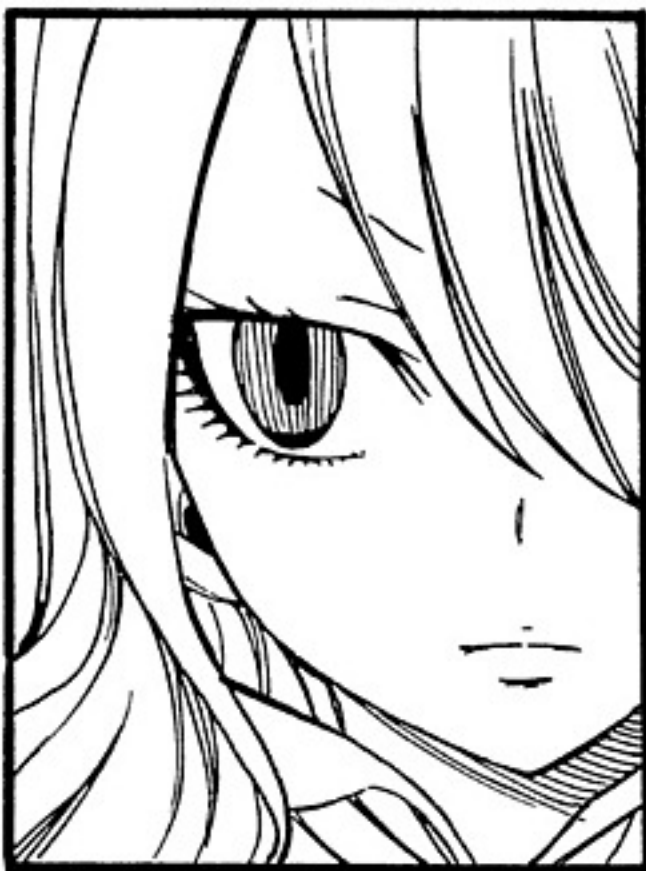
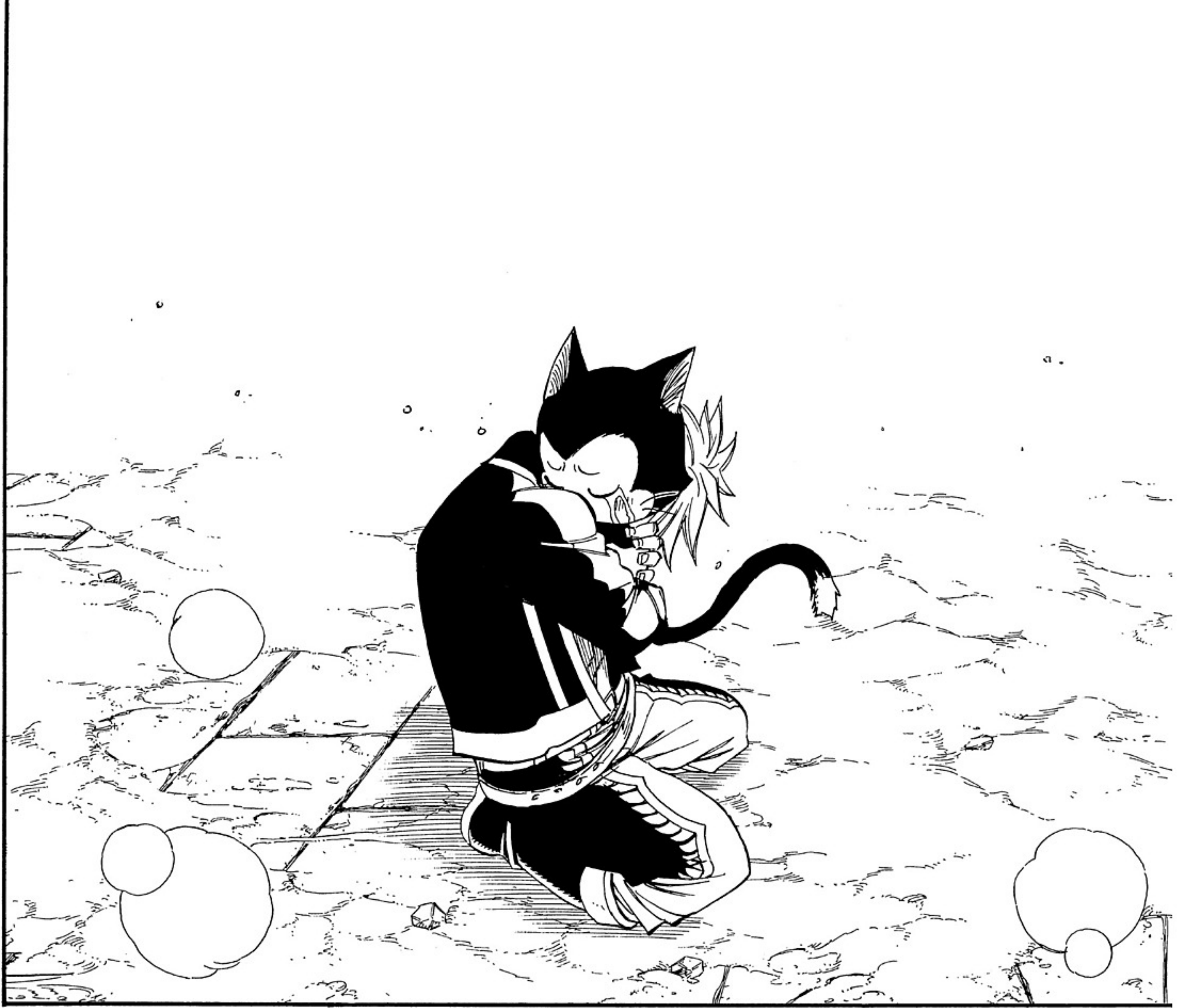
**THE
VICTOR
IN THE
GRAND
MAGIC
GAMES...**











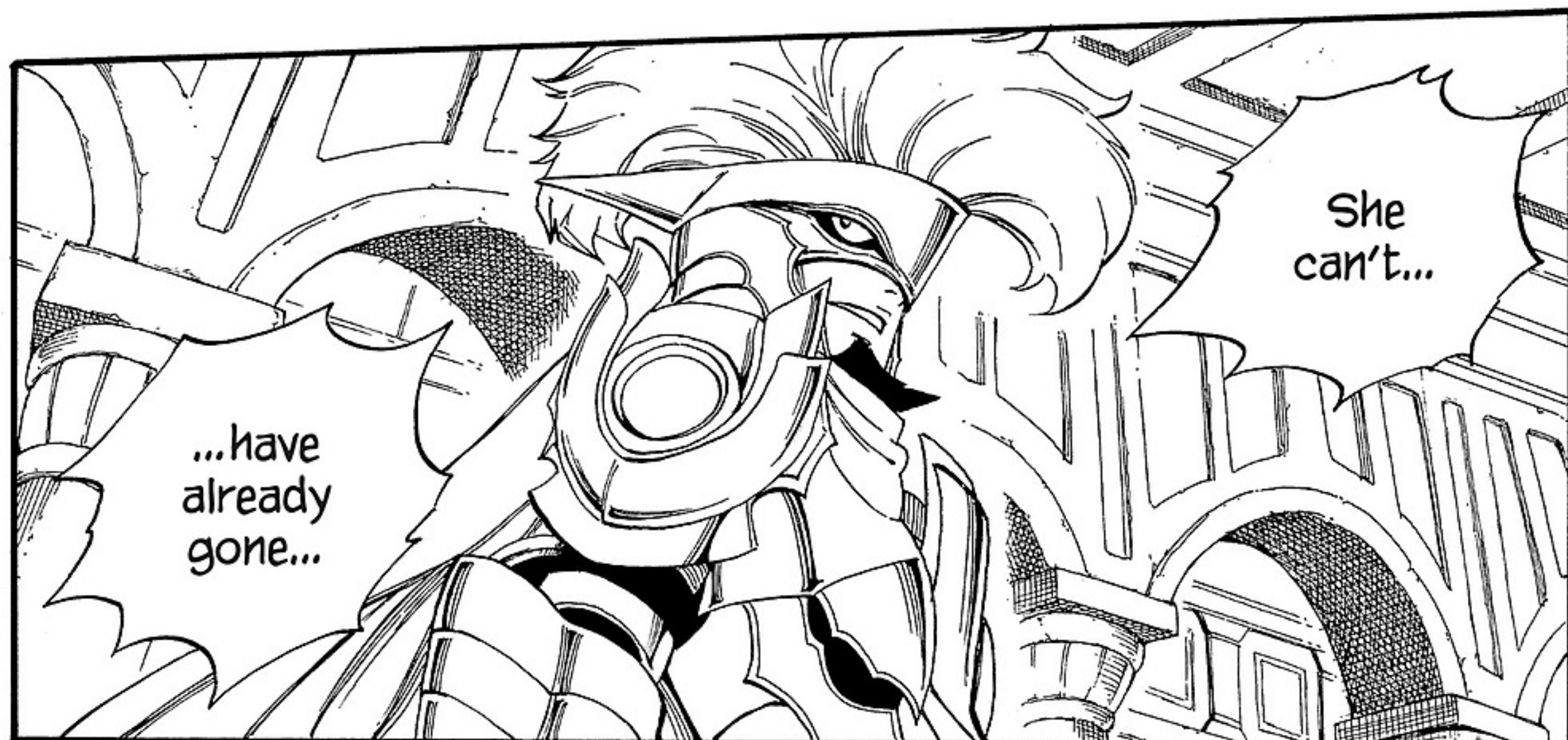


Princess
!!!!

Prin-
cess
!!!!

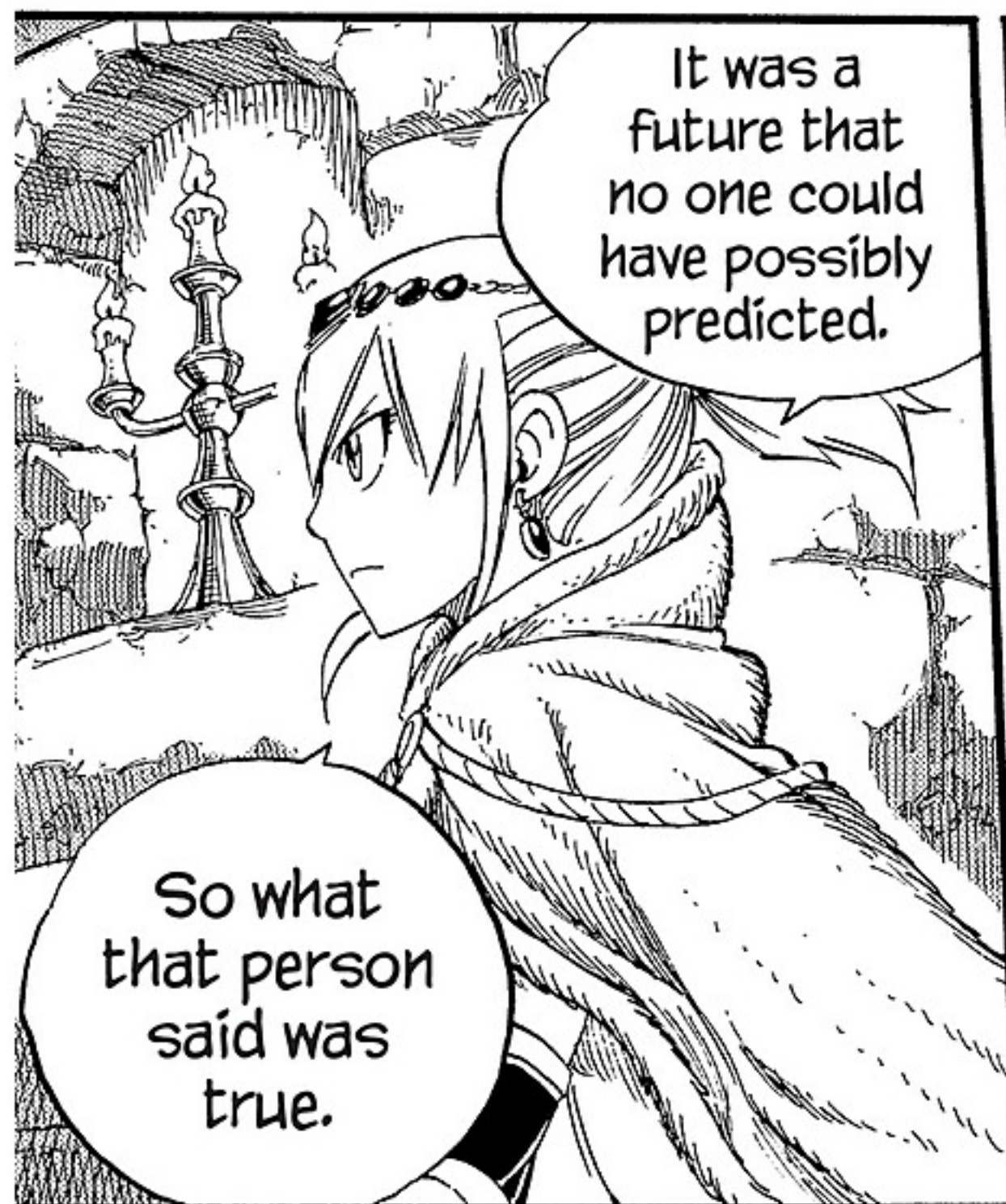


BAMM



...have
already
gone...

She
can't...

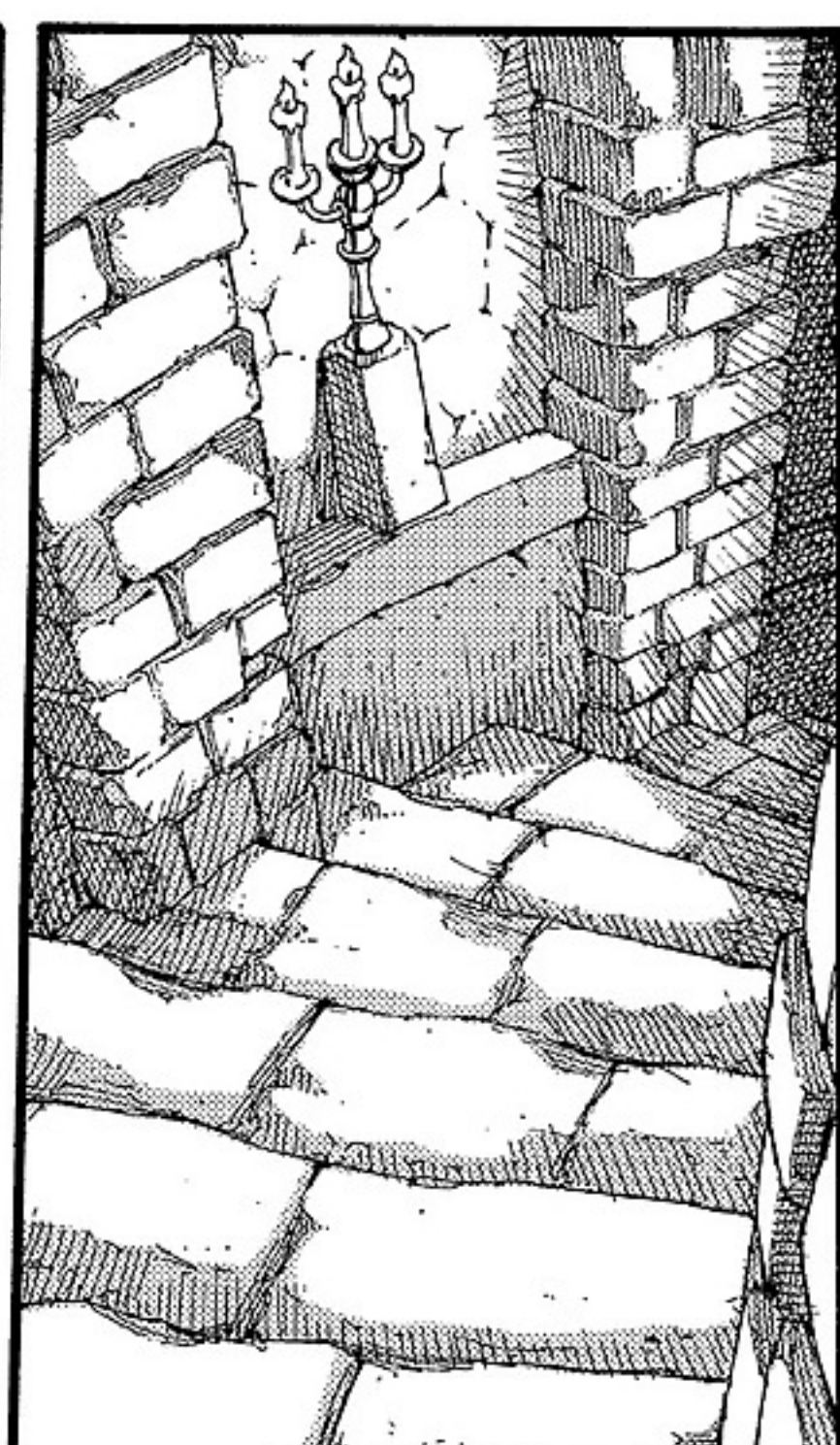


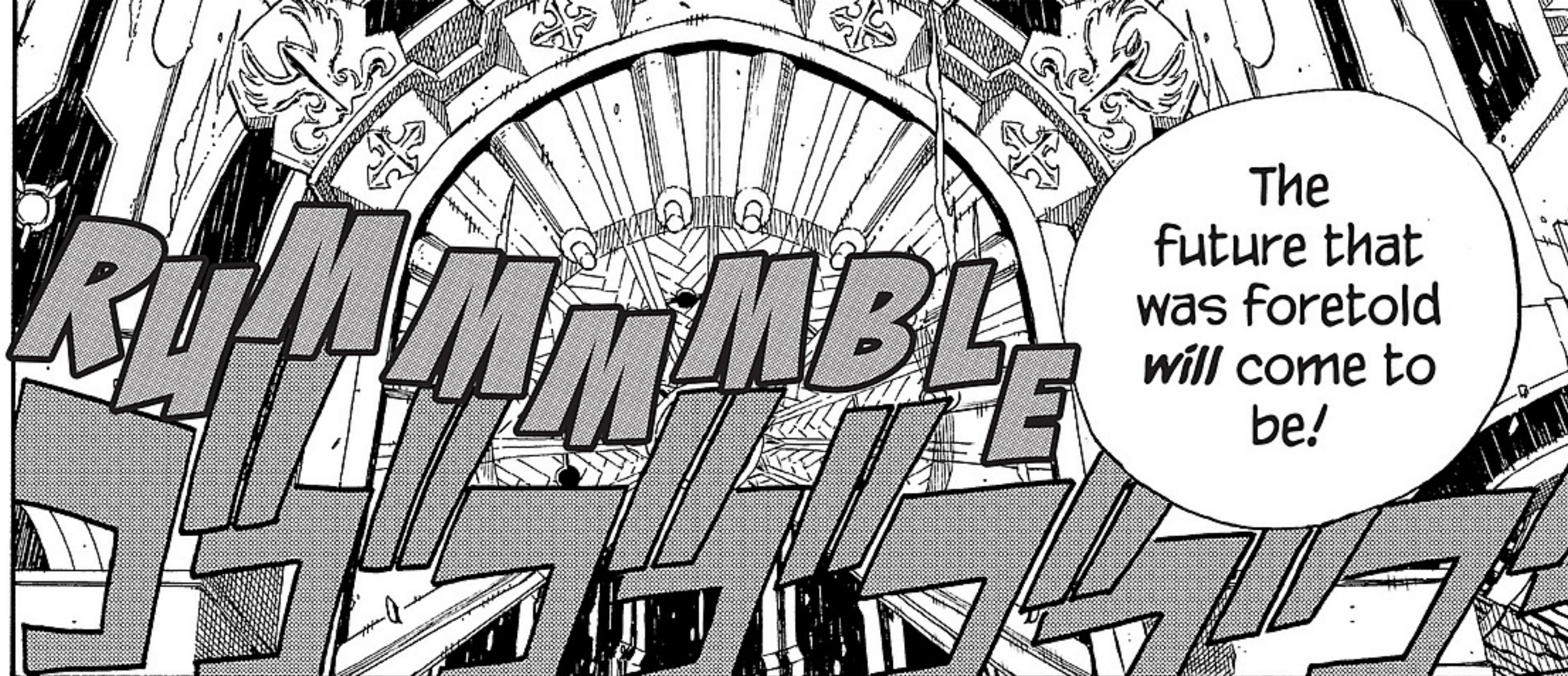
It was a
future that
no one could
have possibly
predicted.

So what
that person
said was
true.



None of Fairy
Tail members
were eliminated,
and Sting
surrenders.





The
future that
was foretold
will come to
be!



We must
bring Eclipse
Two...
the Eclipse
Cannon up to
the surface.

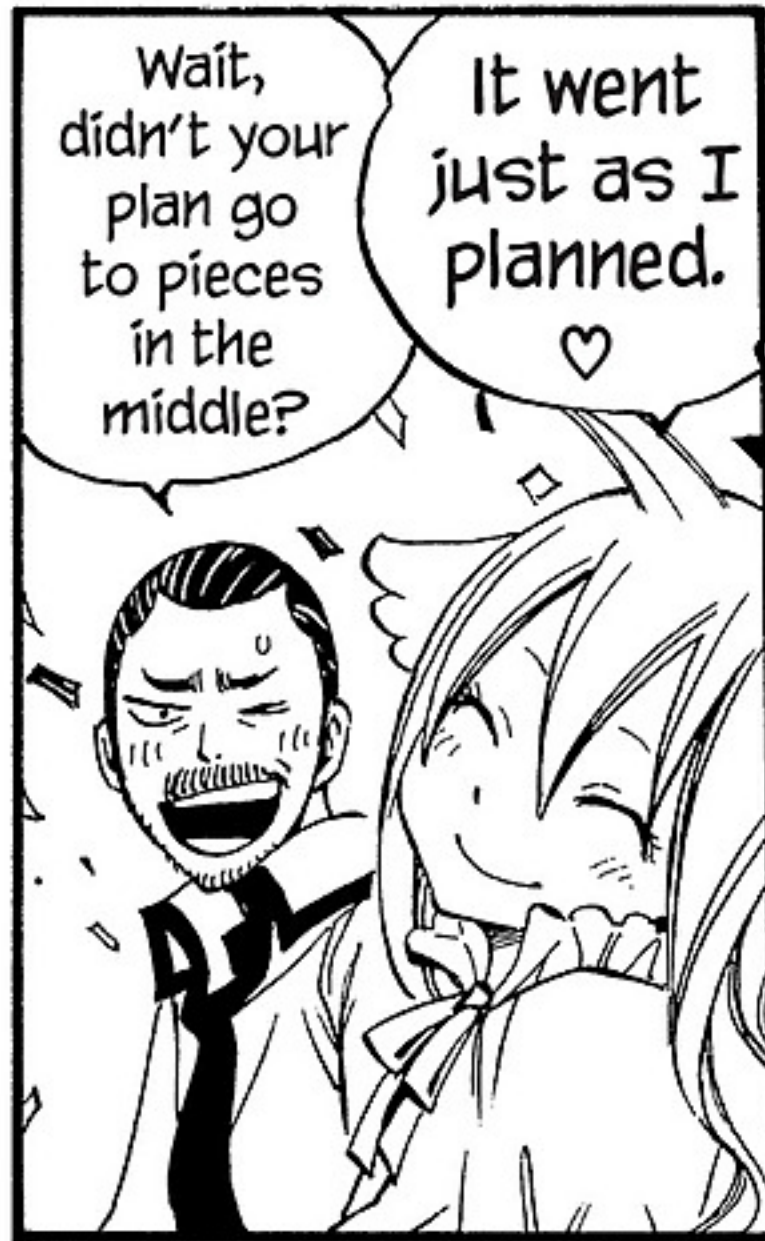
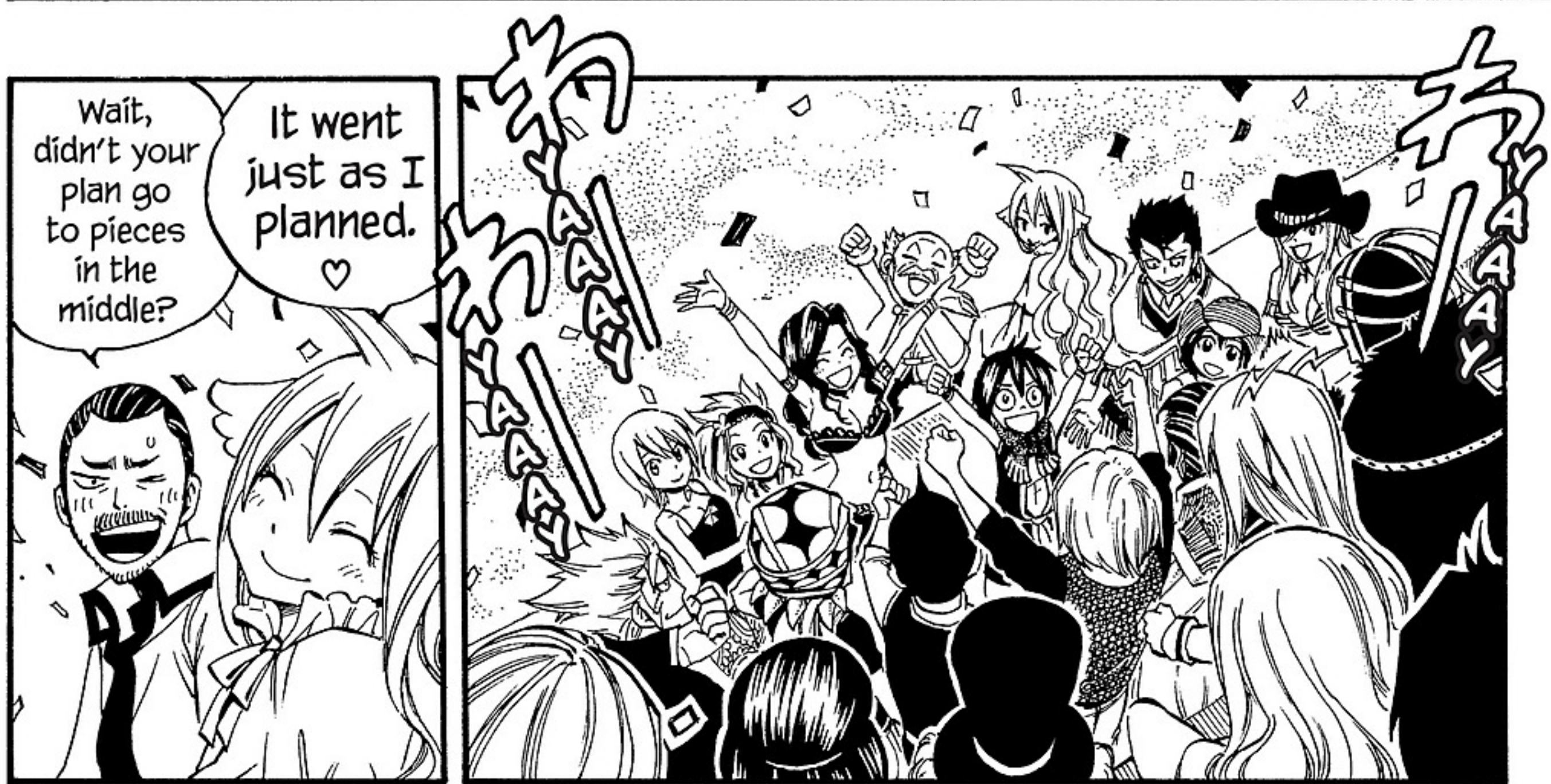
And soon a
battle will begin
that could wipe
out humanity.

FAIRY TAIL

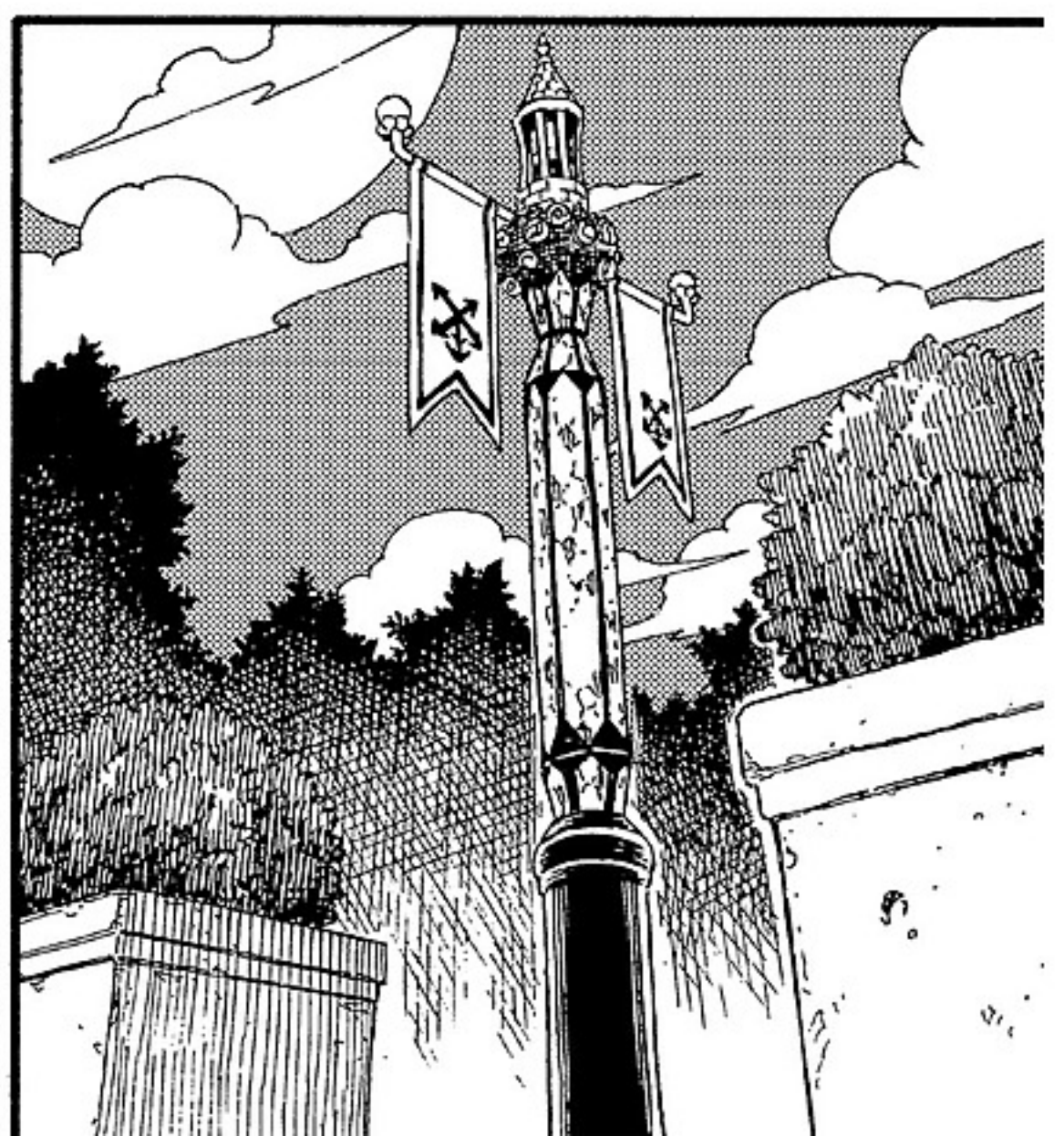
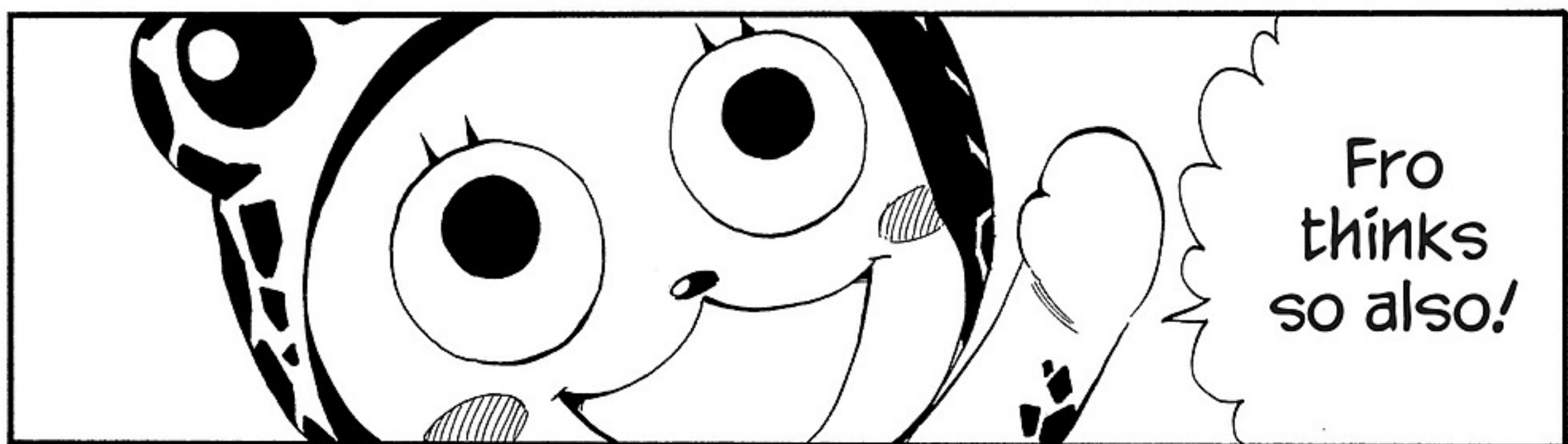
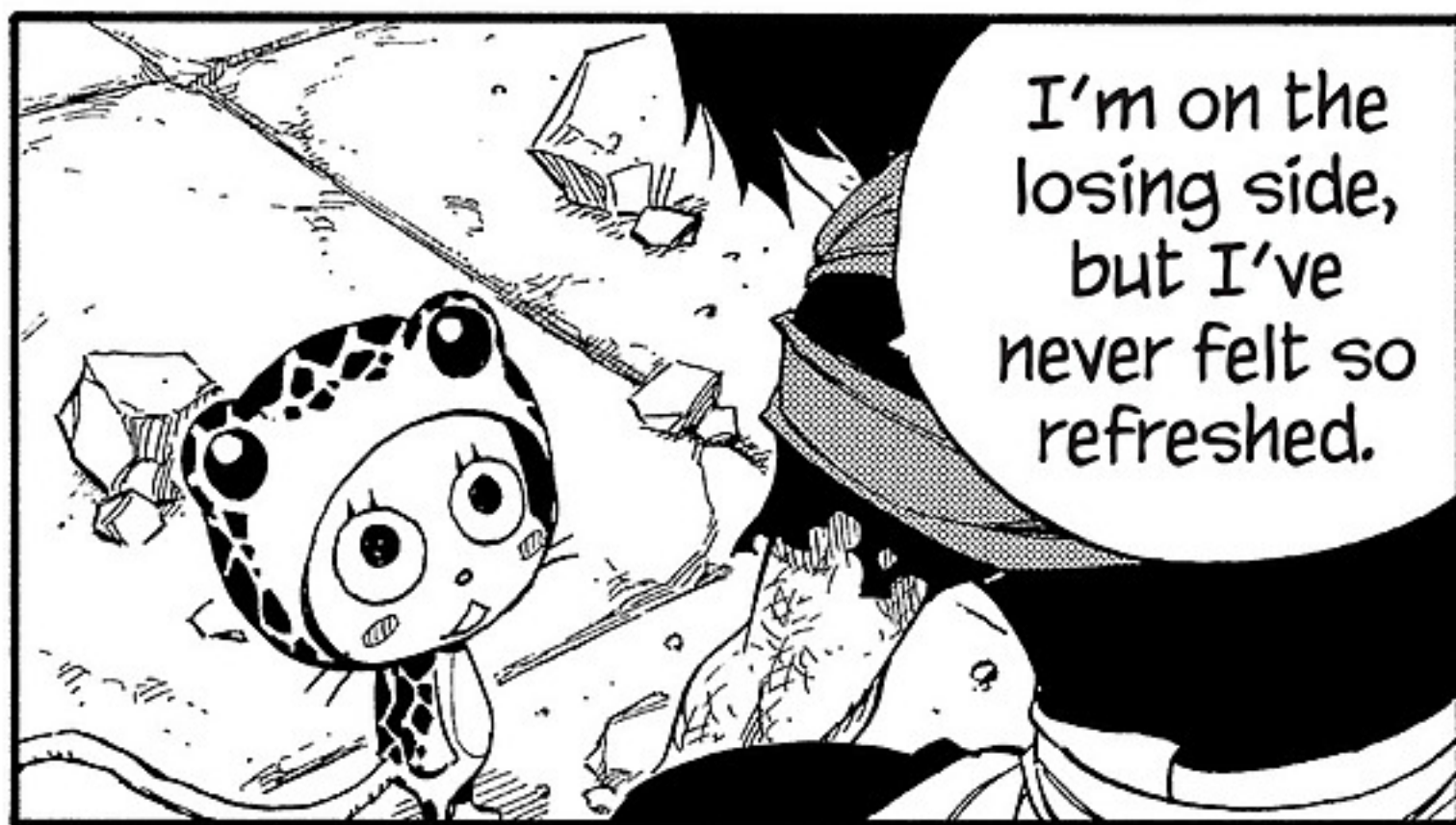
フェアリーテイル

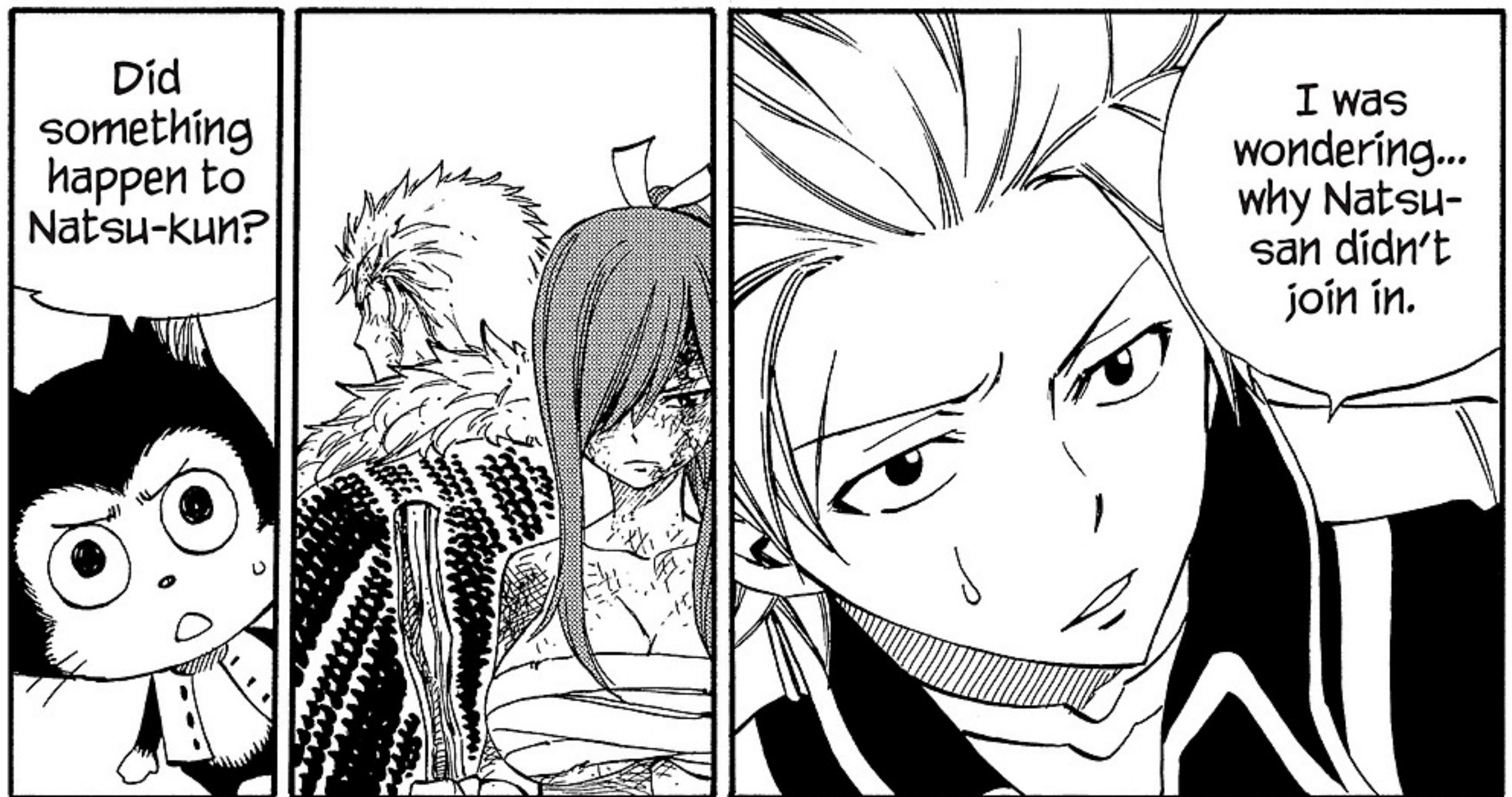
Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again











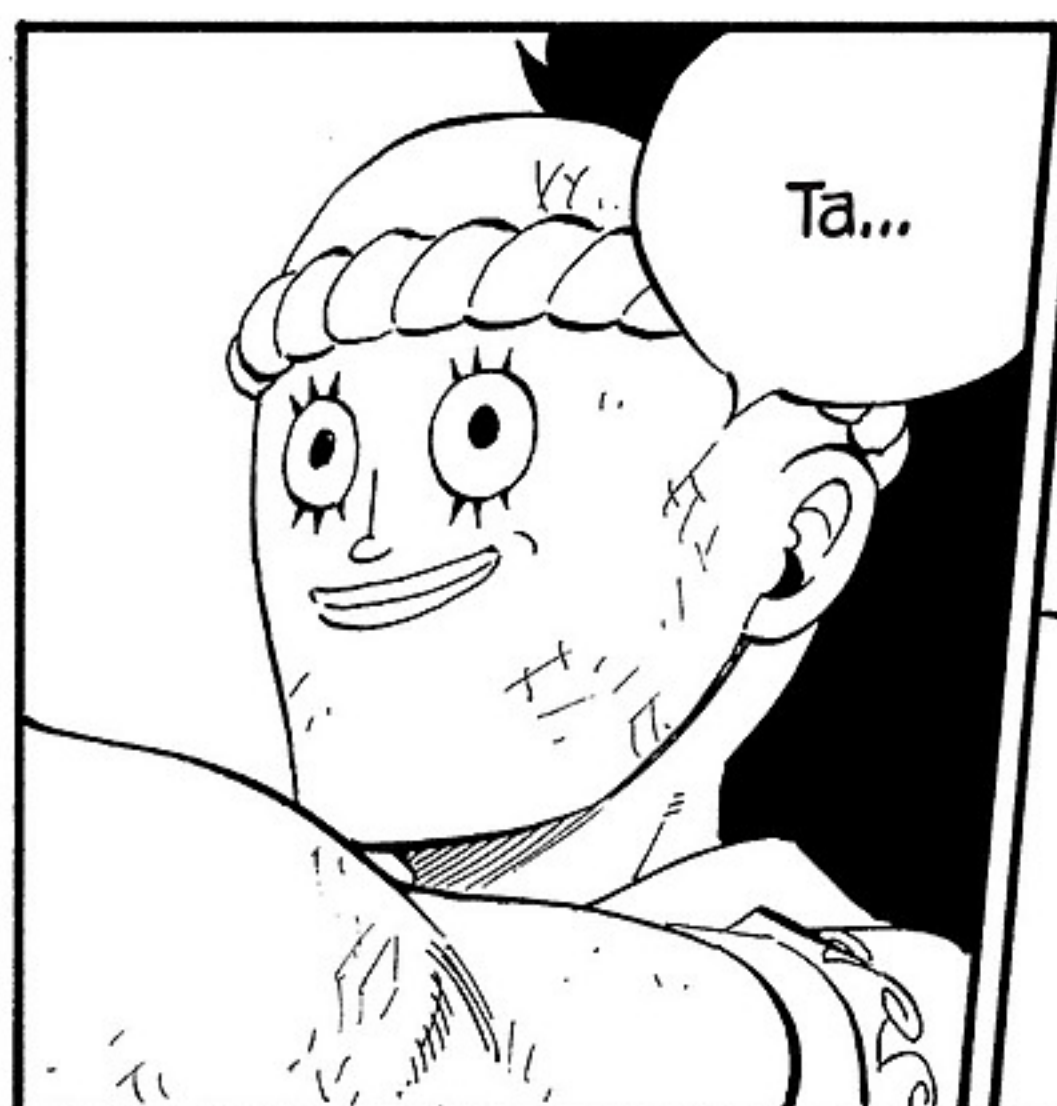




Now you
made me mad!!!
You're gonna
get executed!!!!
You're all gonna
get a good
execution!!!!



Give up,
convicts
!!!



Ta...



WHOA!

Again
?!

WAFT
ふわ,

Tai! Tai!

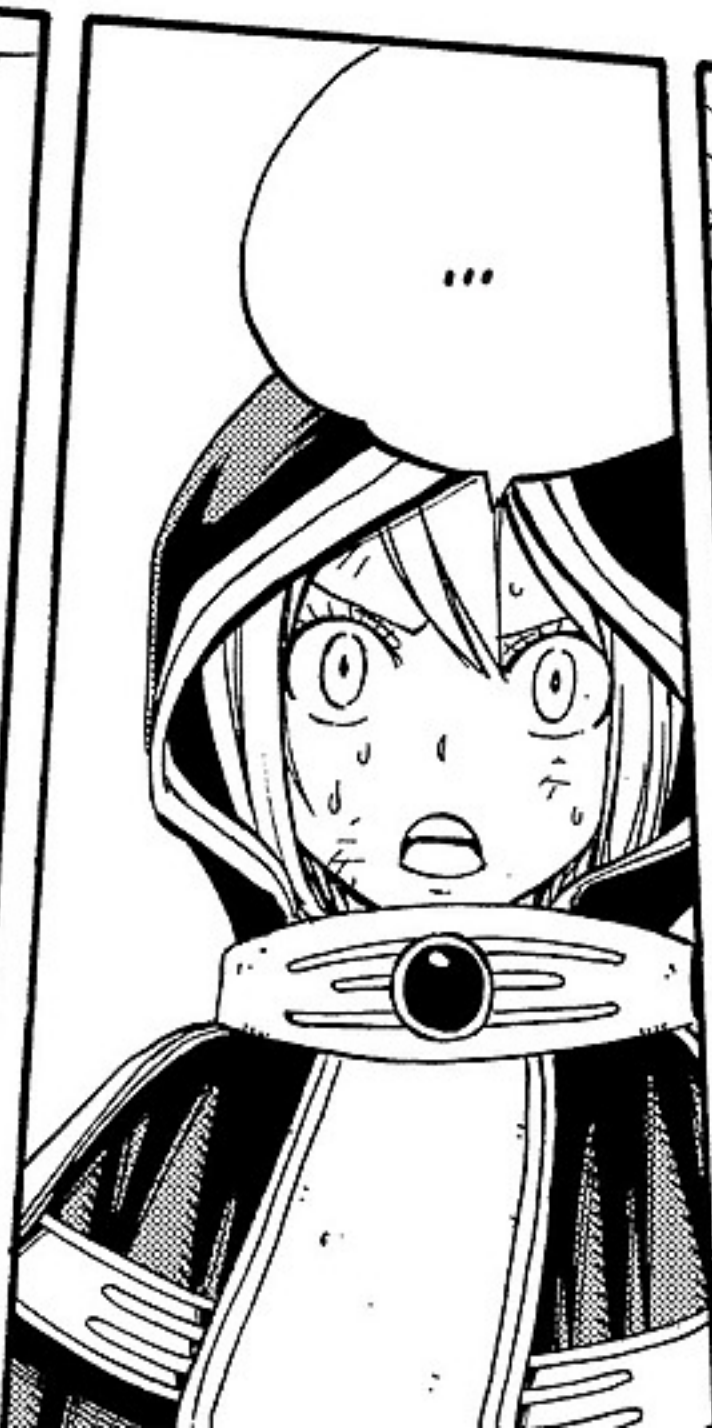


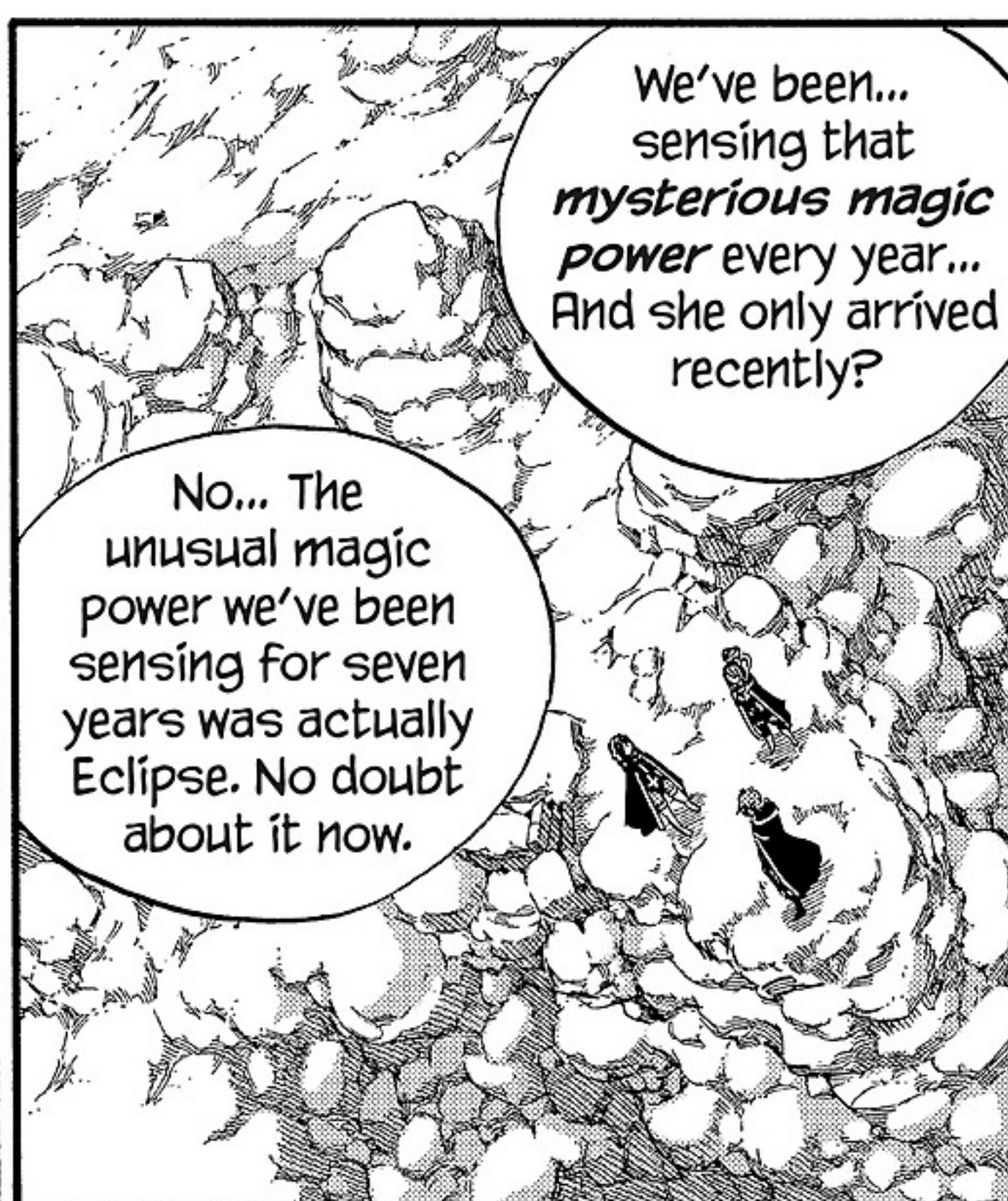
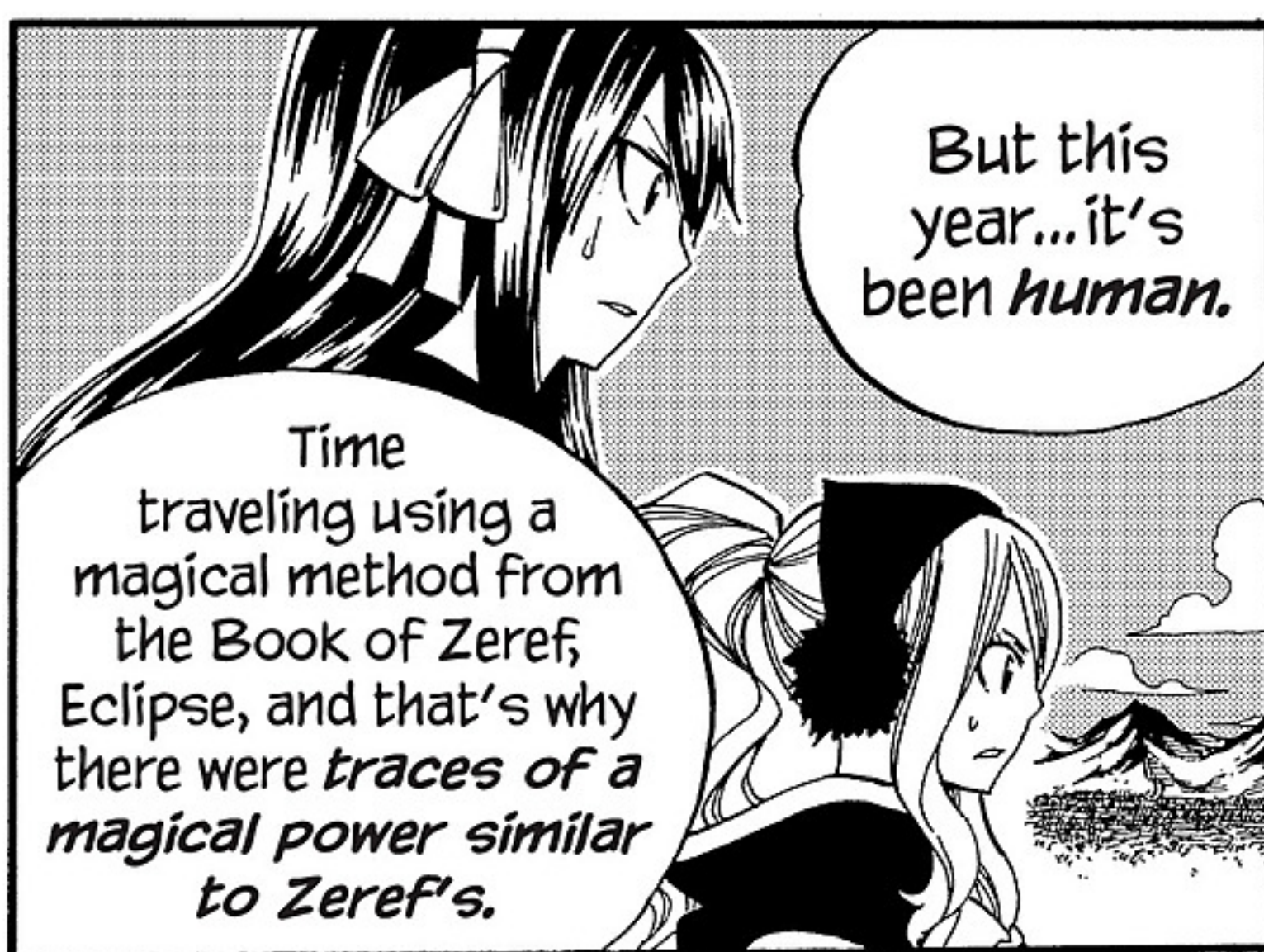
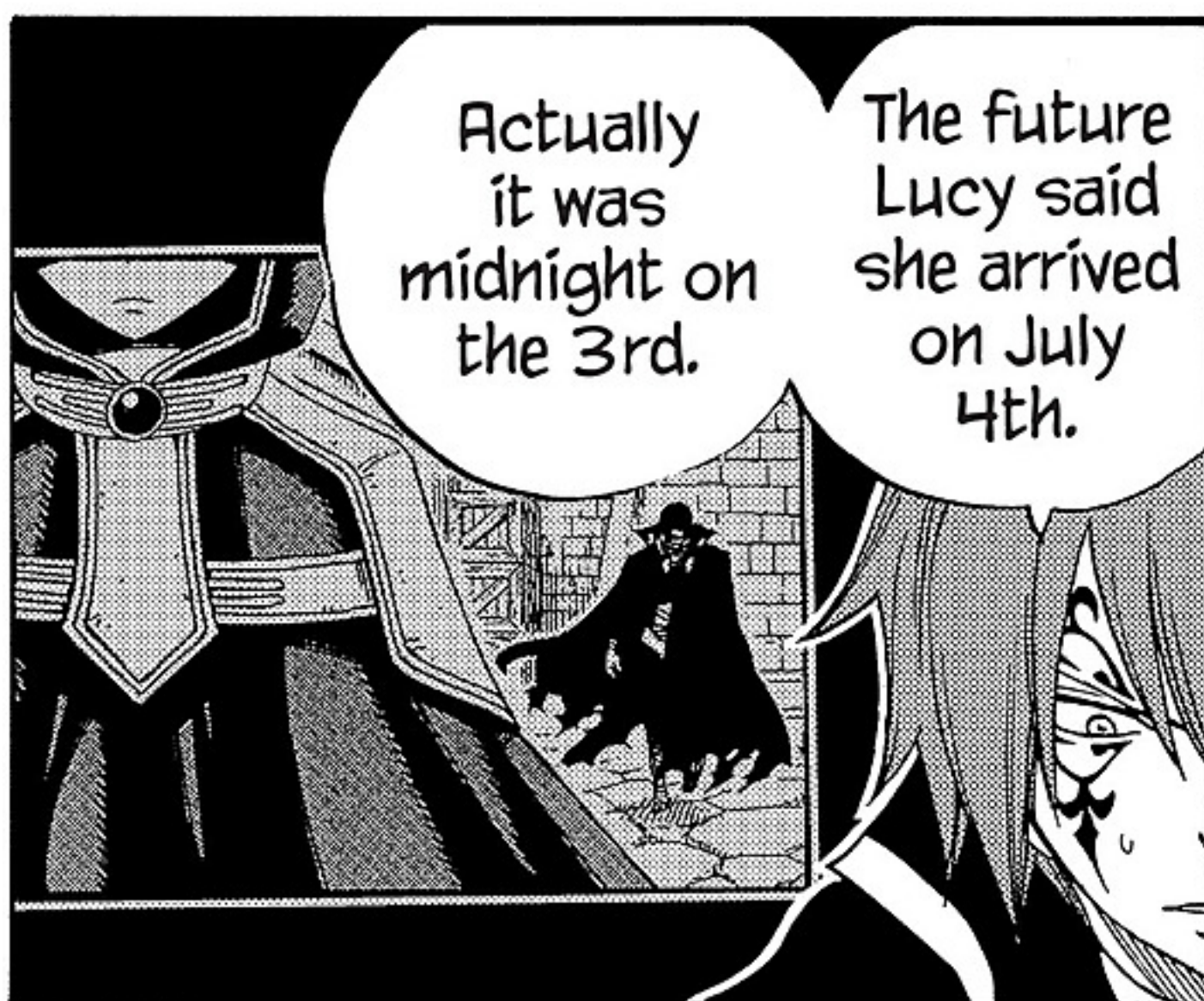
Shadow
?

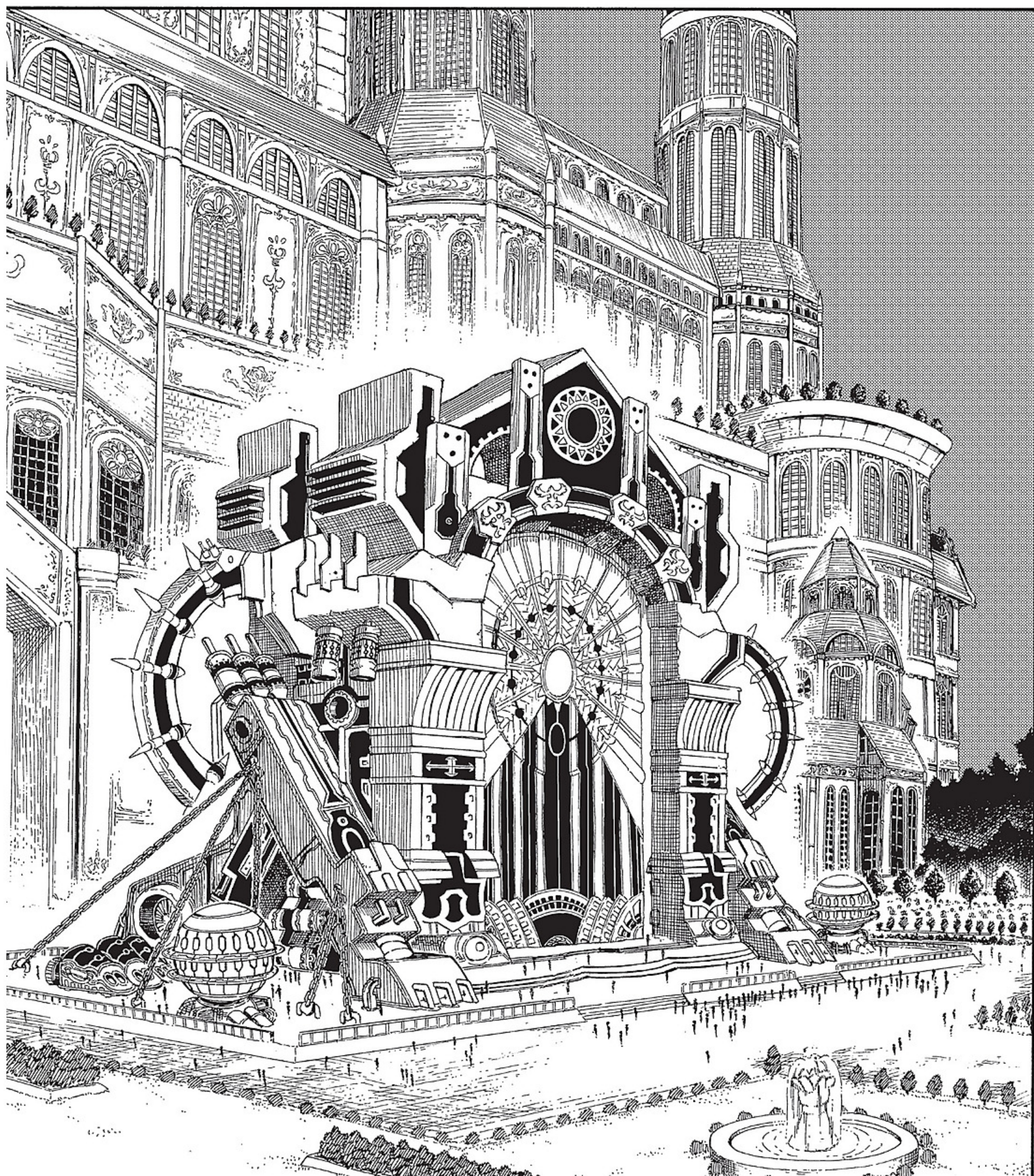
What is
that?



ZWIM
ZWIM
ZWIM
ZWIM



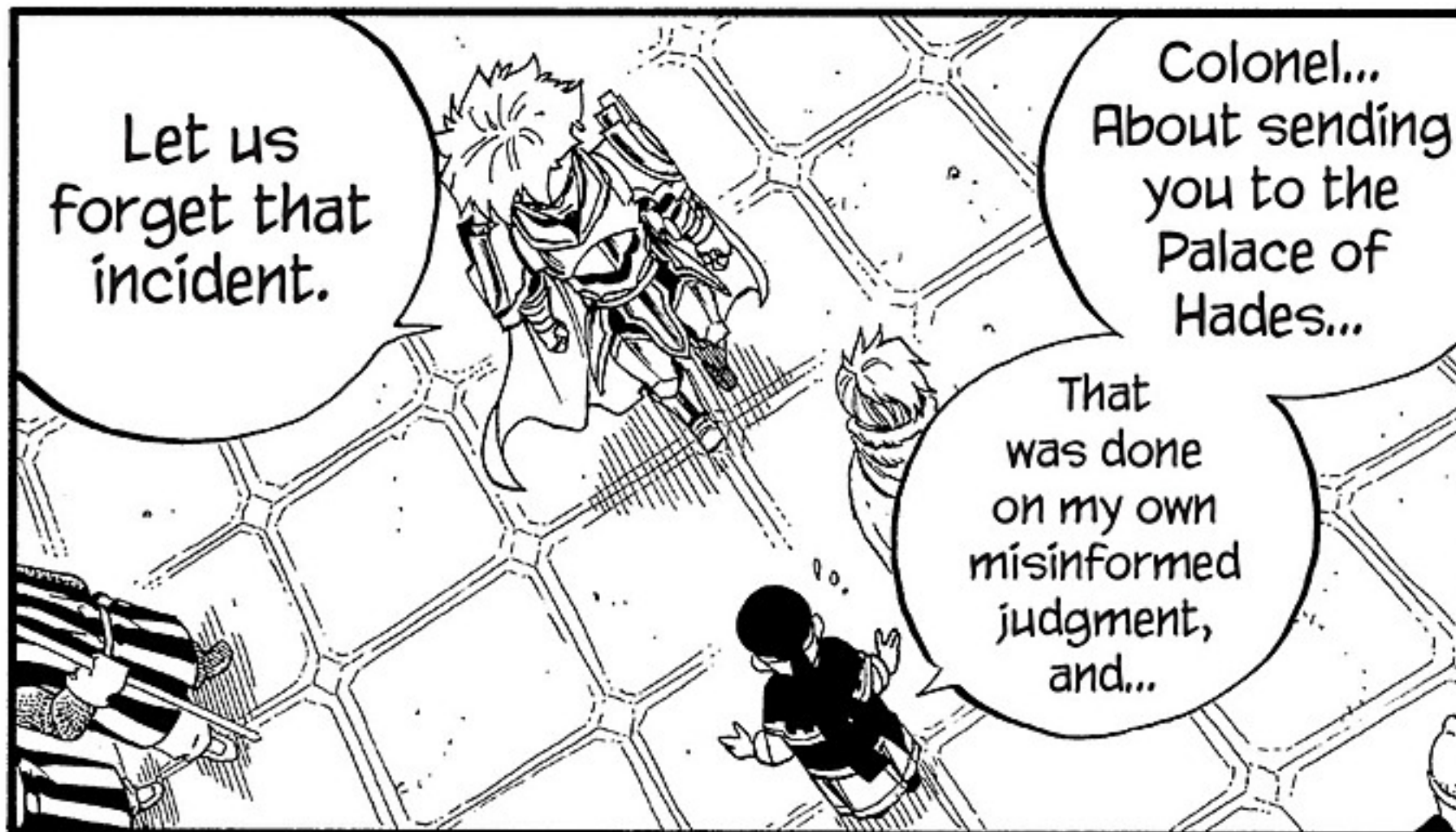






Colonel
Arcadíós!

*Your
Highness
!!*



Let us
forget that
incident.

Colonel...
About sending
you to the
Palace of
Hades...

That
was done
on my own
misinformed
judgment,
and...



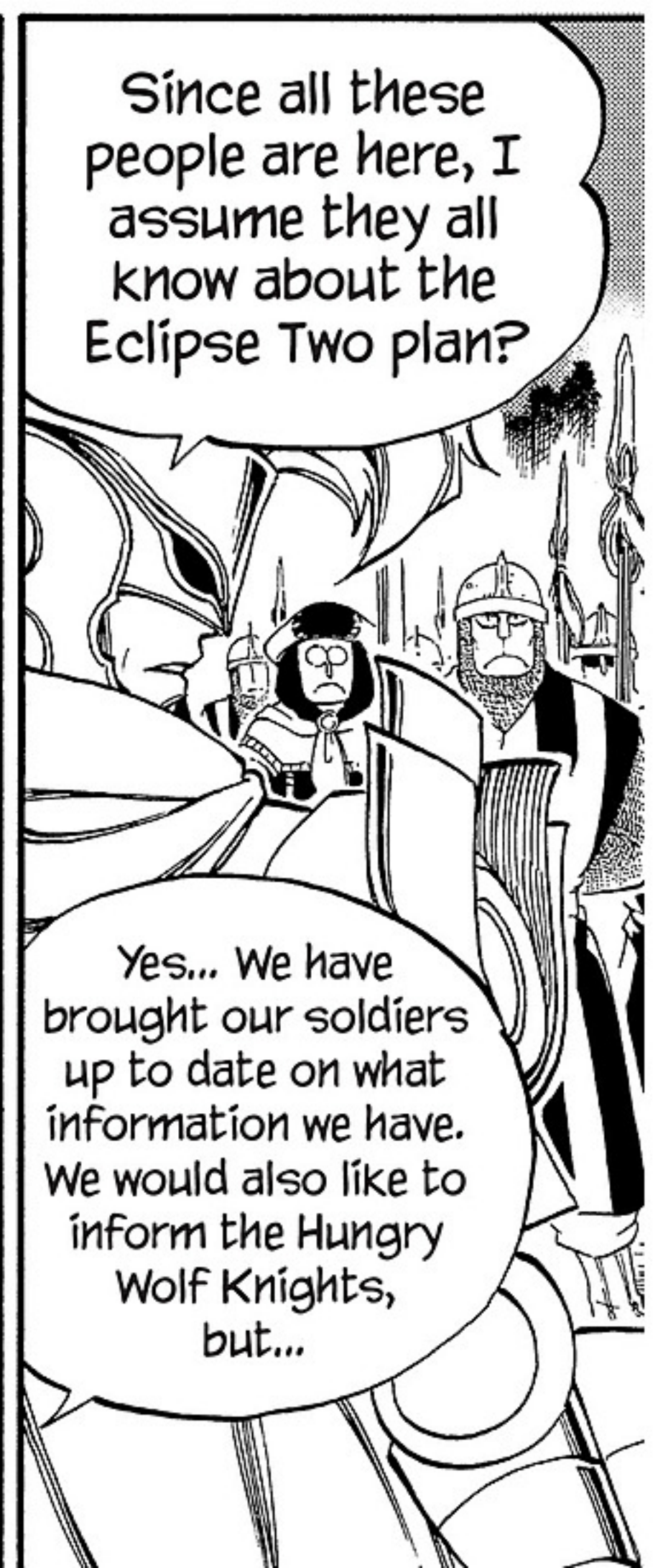
You're
all right!

Urk!



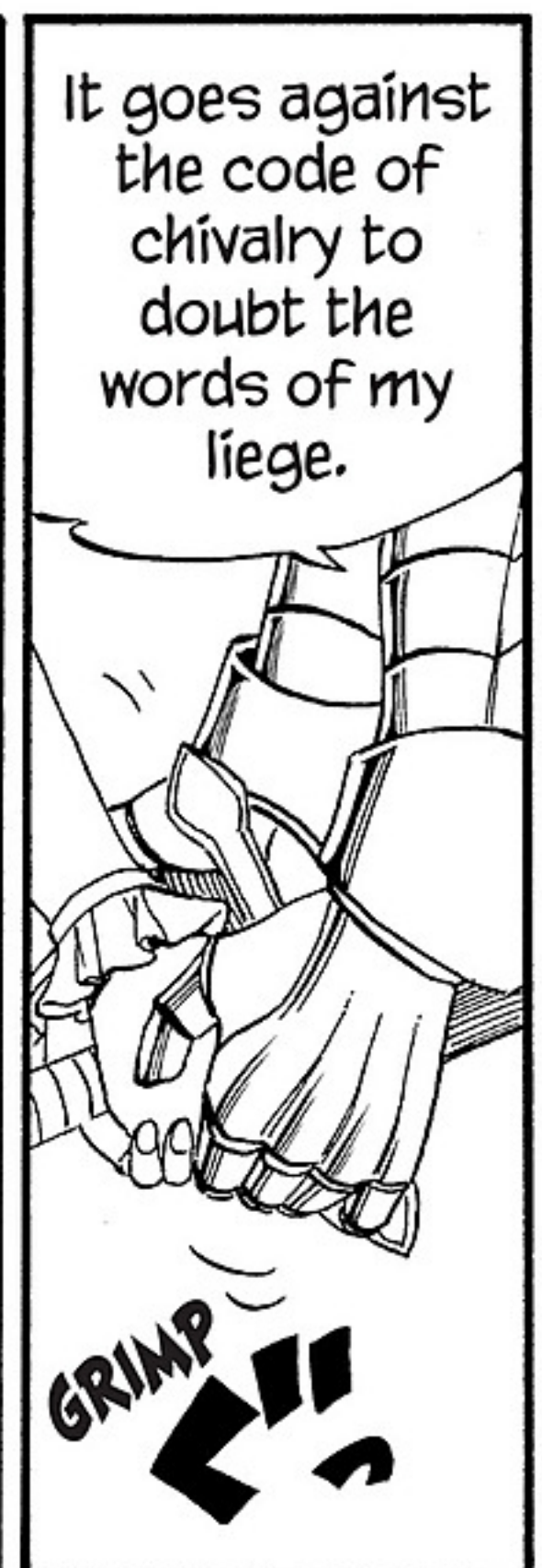
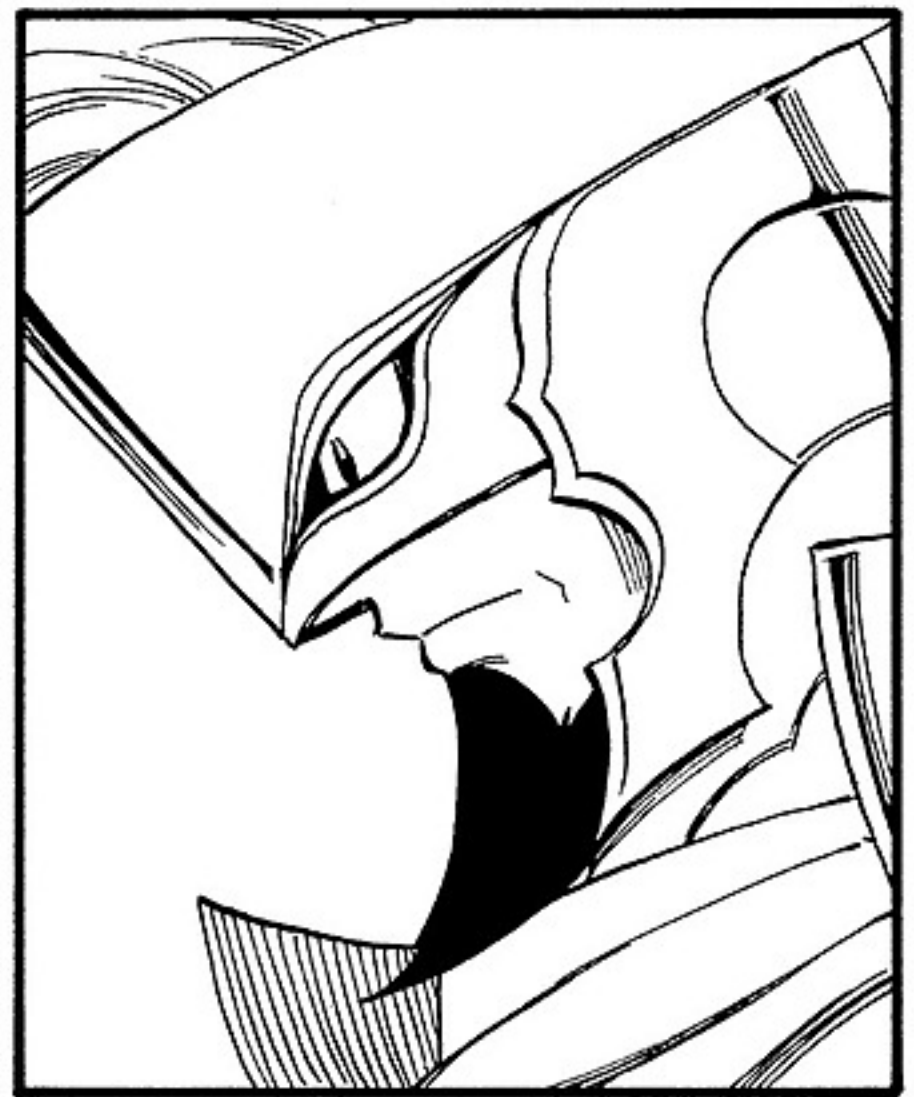
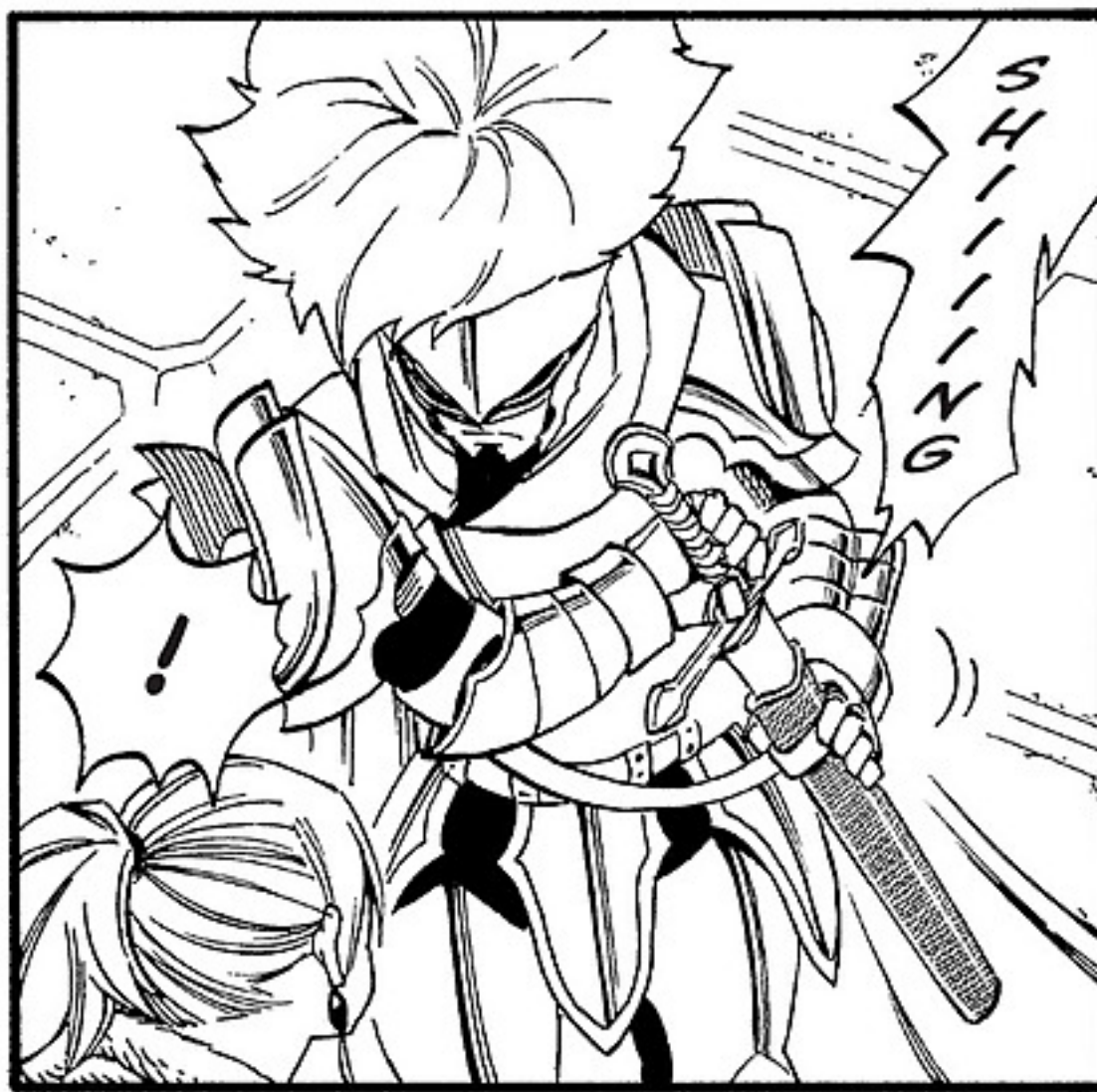
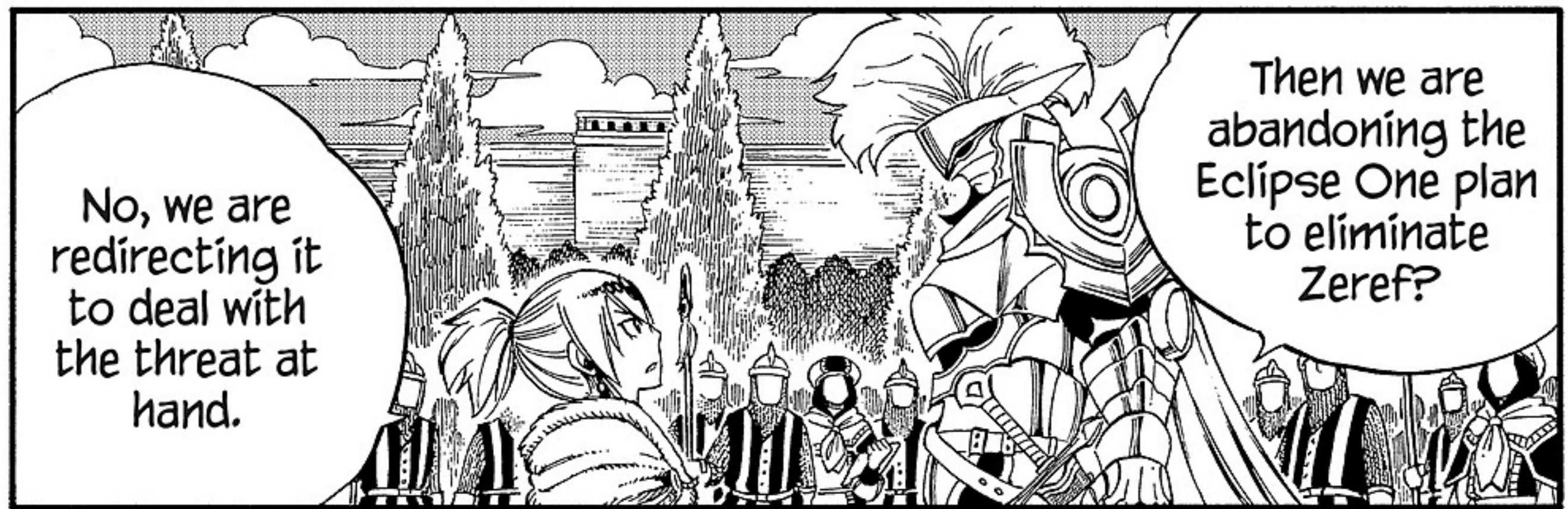
So now, we will
proceed with
the Eclipse Two
Plan.

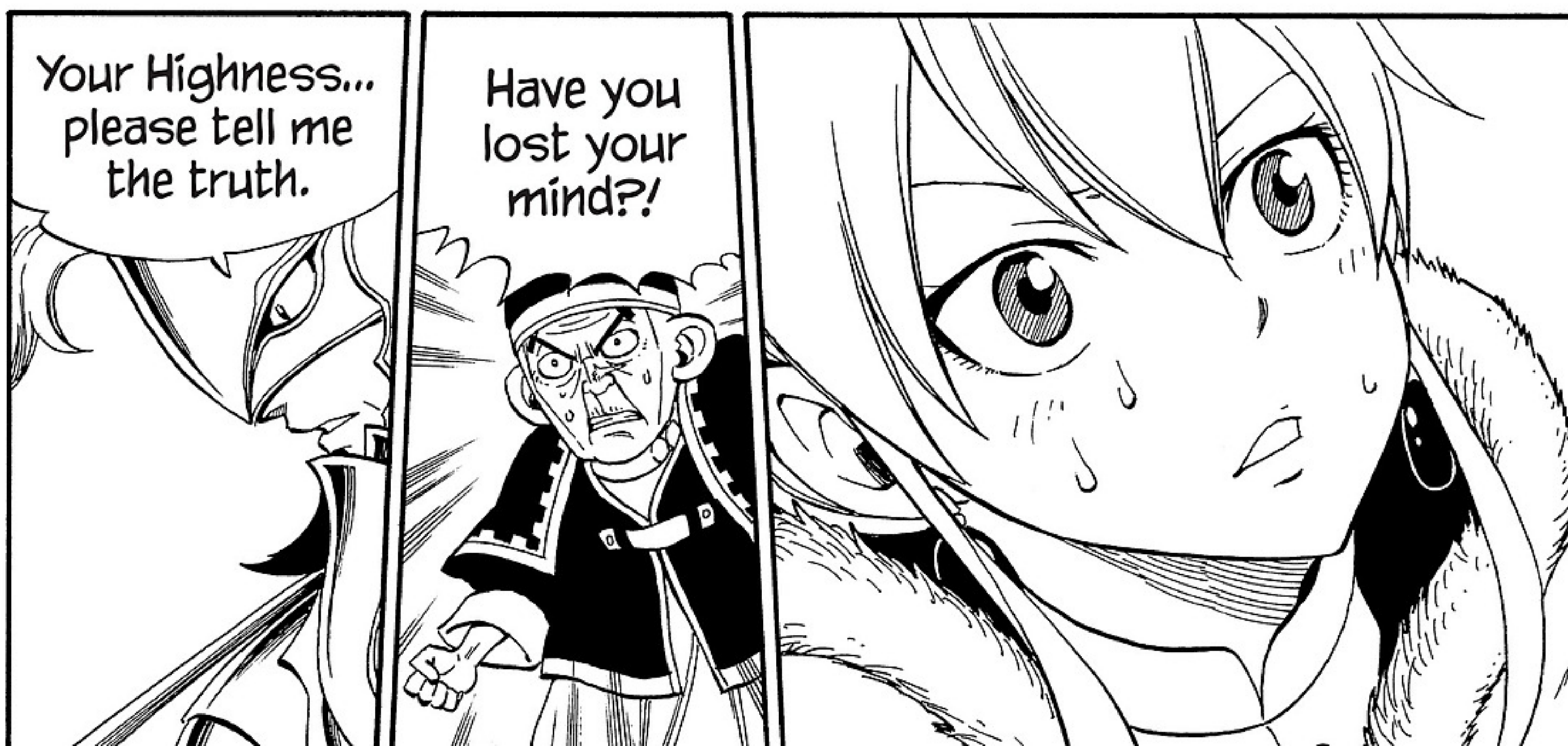
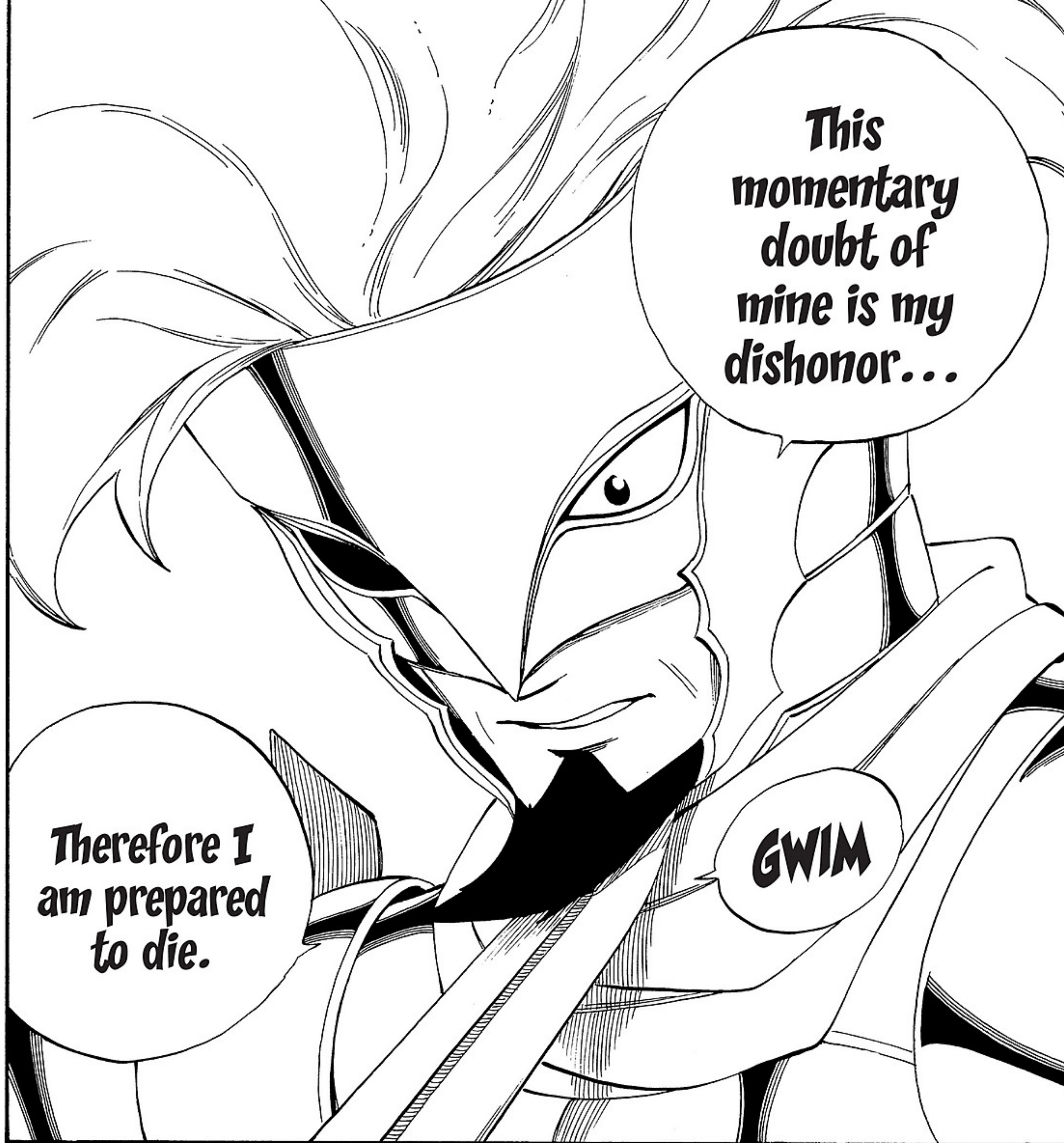
What the
person from
the future said
is true.

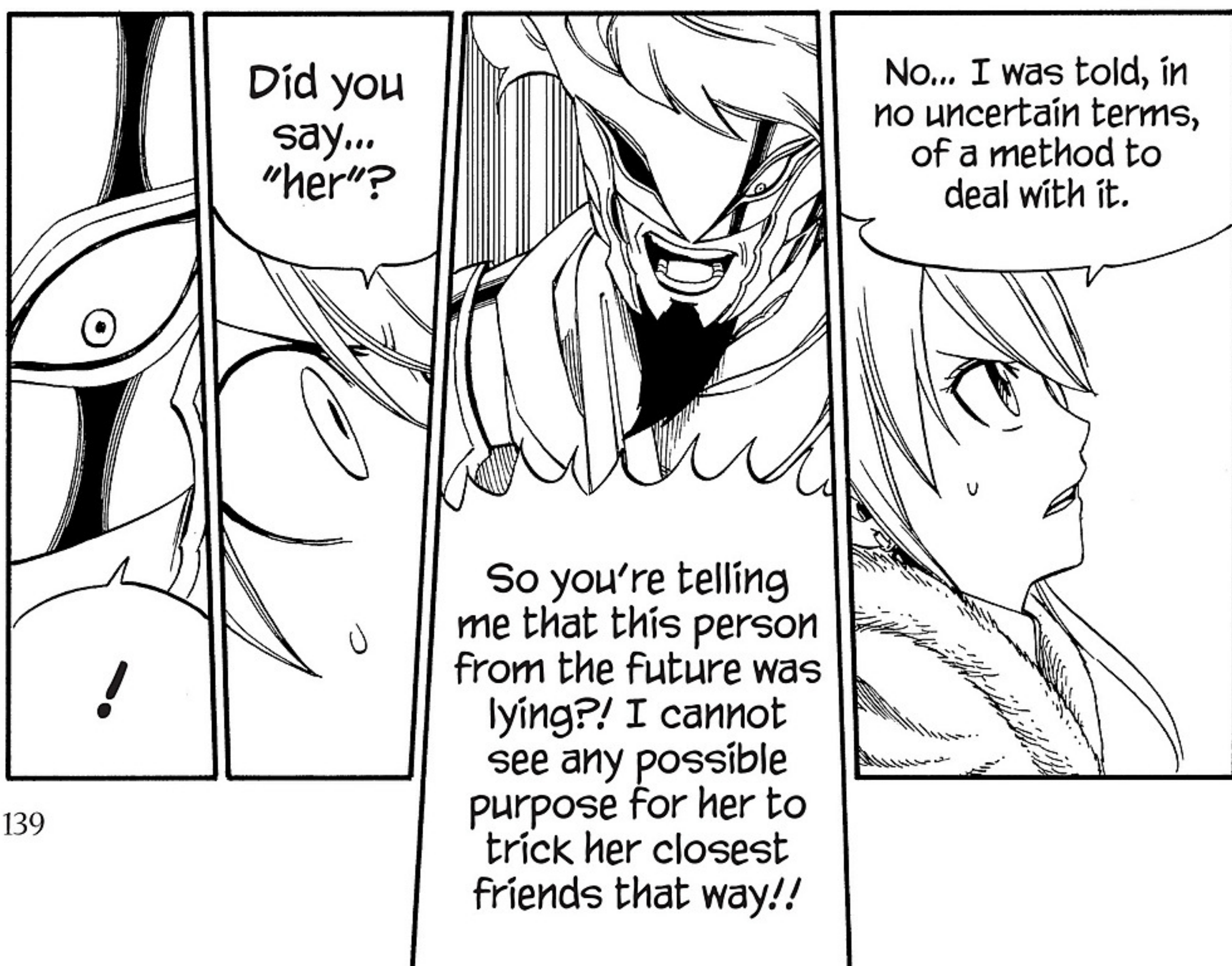
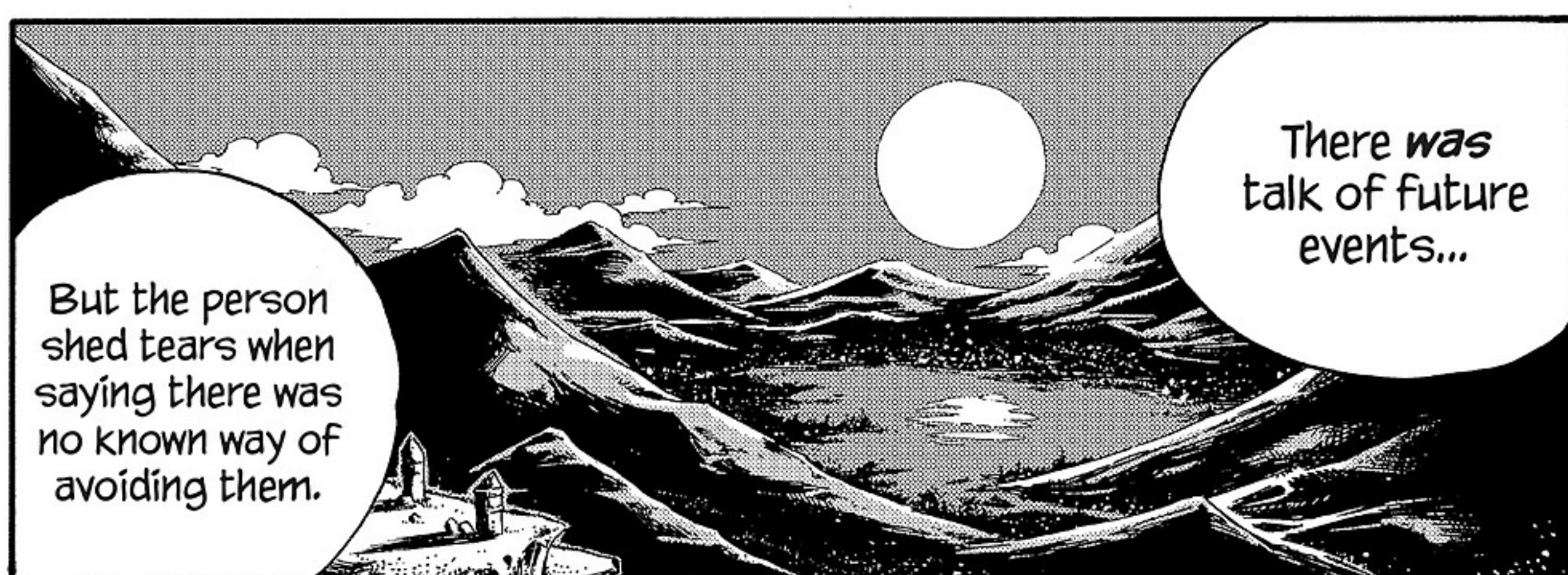


Since all these
people are here, I
assume they all
know about the
Eclipse Two plan?

Yes... We have
brought our soldiers
up to date on what
information we have.
We would also like to
inform the Hungry
Wolf Knights,
but...



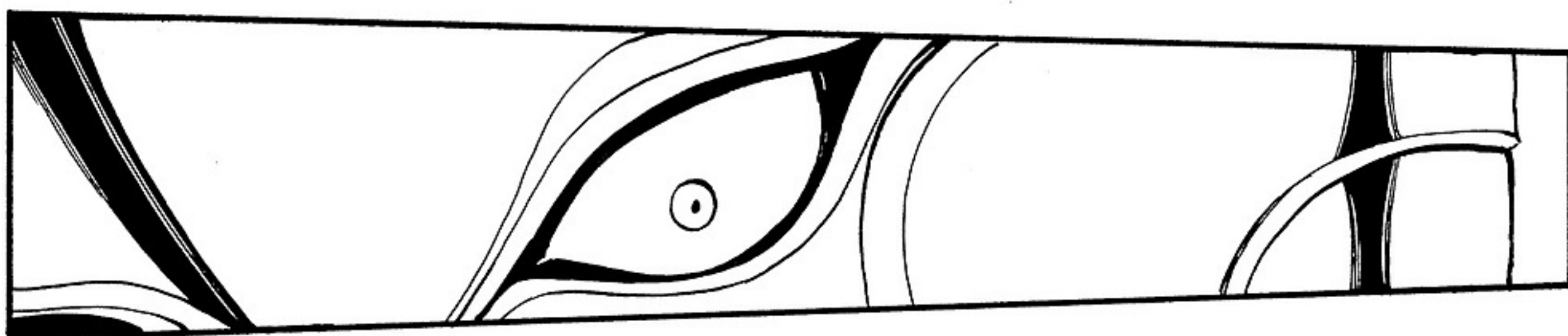






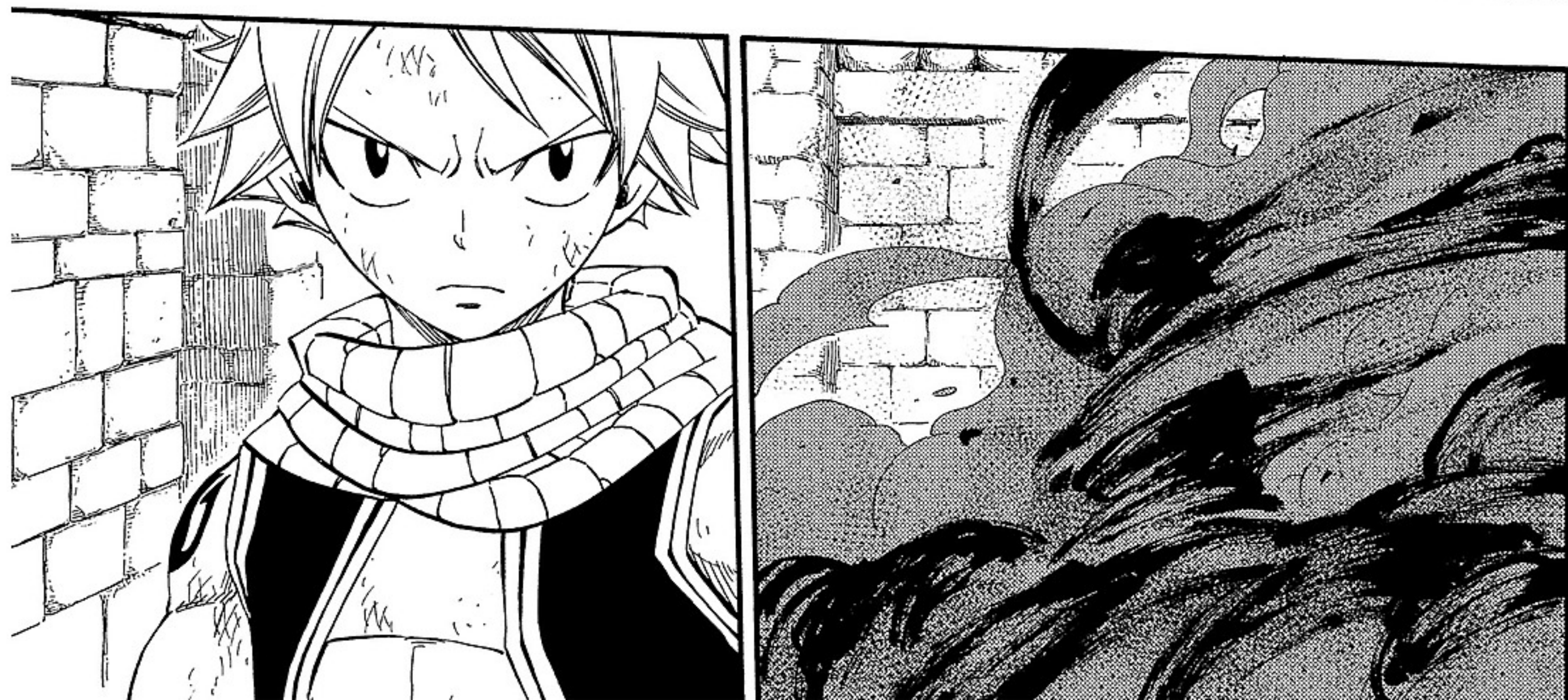
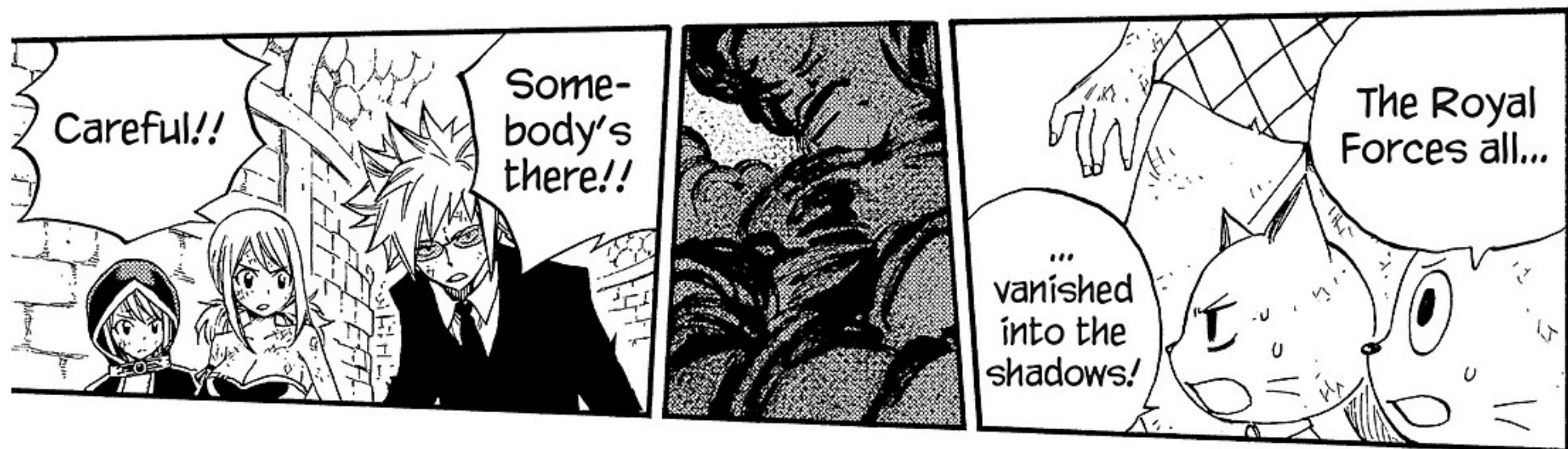
**... was
a man!!**

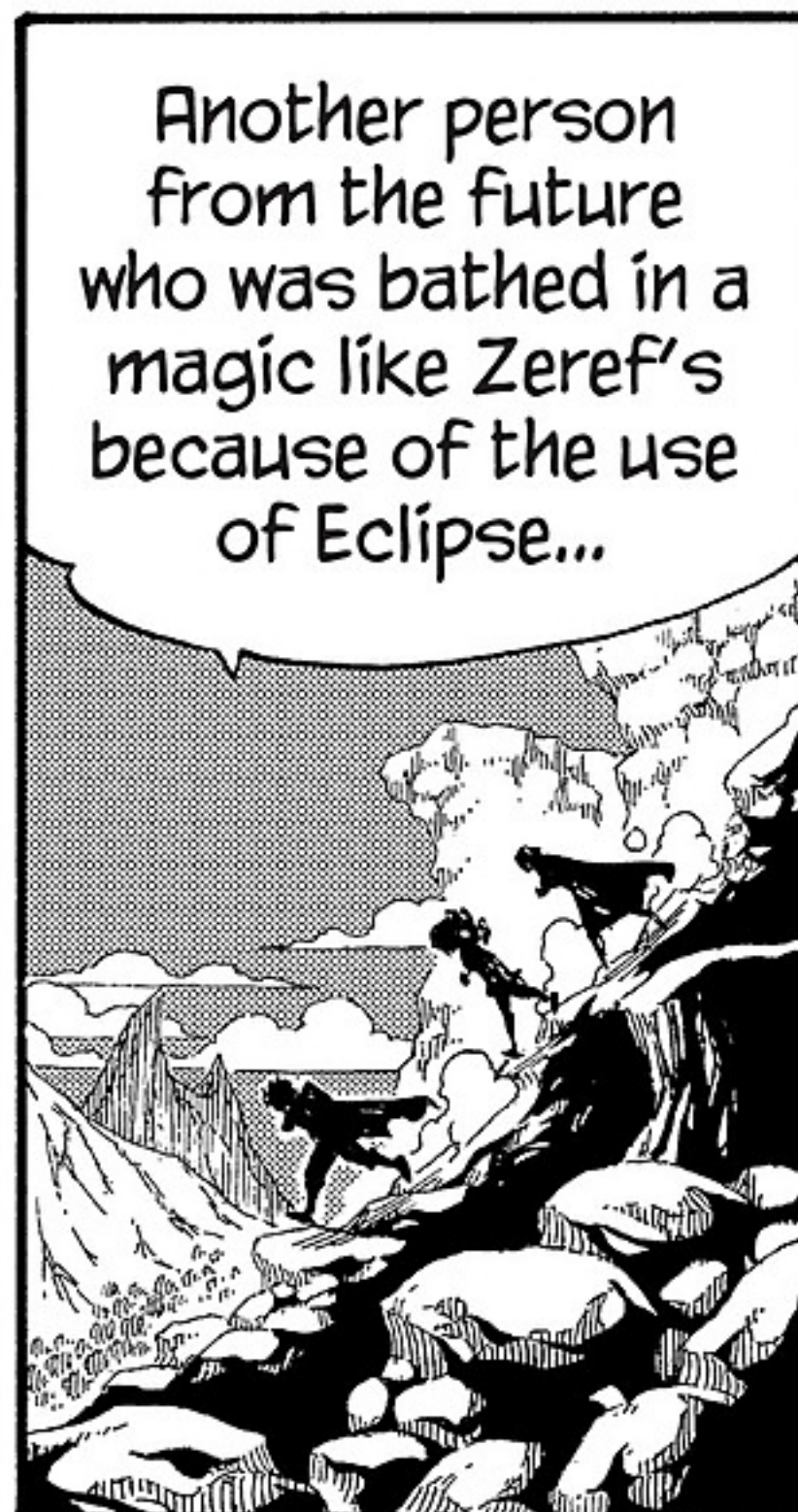
**The one who
warned me of
the coming
future...**



**There is
someone
else!!!**

**The one who
I saw on the
evening of the
3rd was not
Lucy!!!**







*But
why did
this other
one come
back?!!!*



It's nice
to see you
after so
long, Natsu
Dragneel.



Or into
people's
hearts...?



Into the
past?
Or the
future?

Which way
do the
shadows
stretch?



***I have come
back from a
time that is
yet to be.***

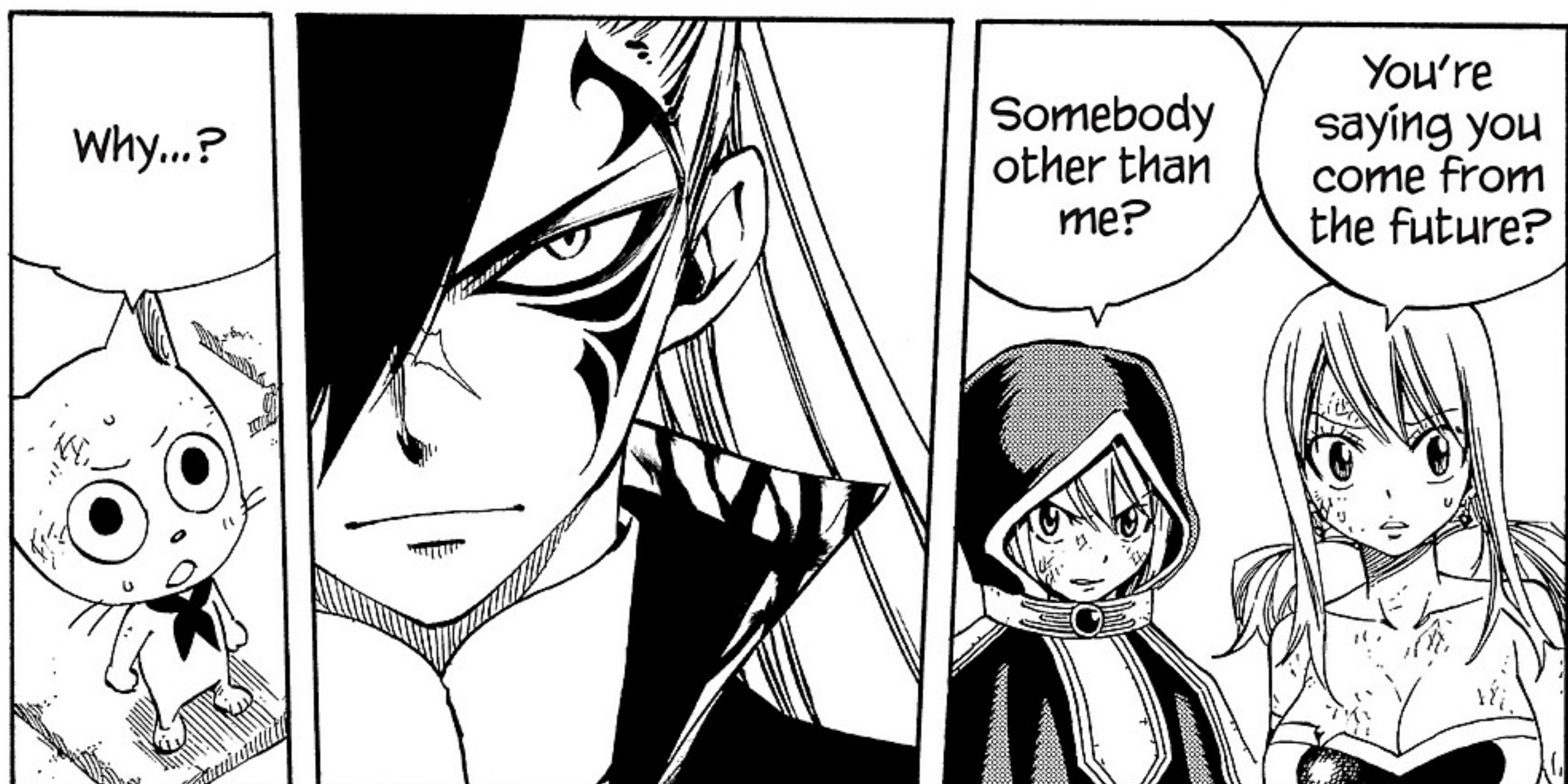
***I am
Rogue.***

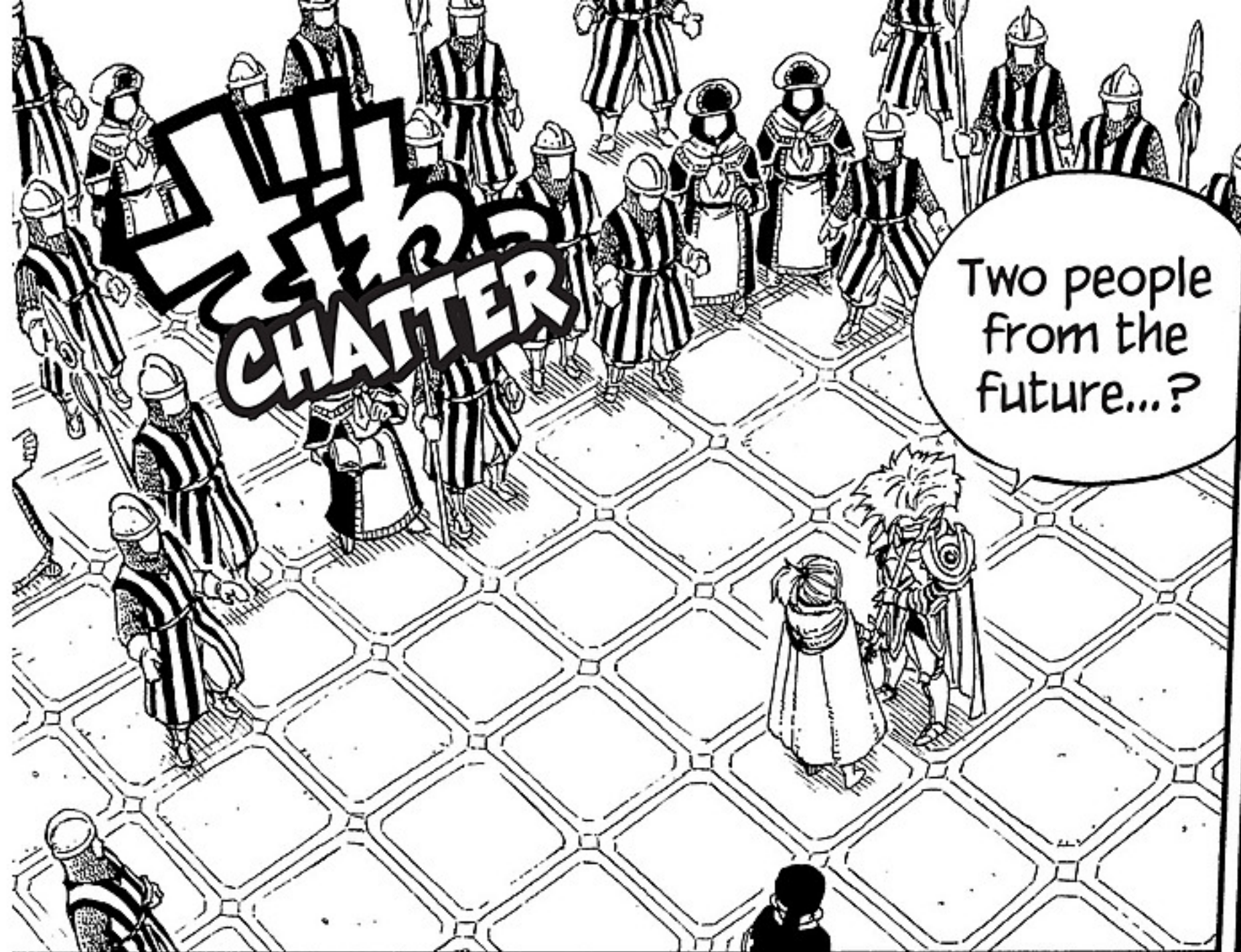
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

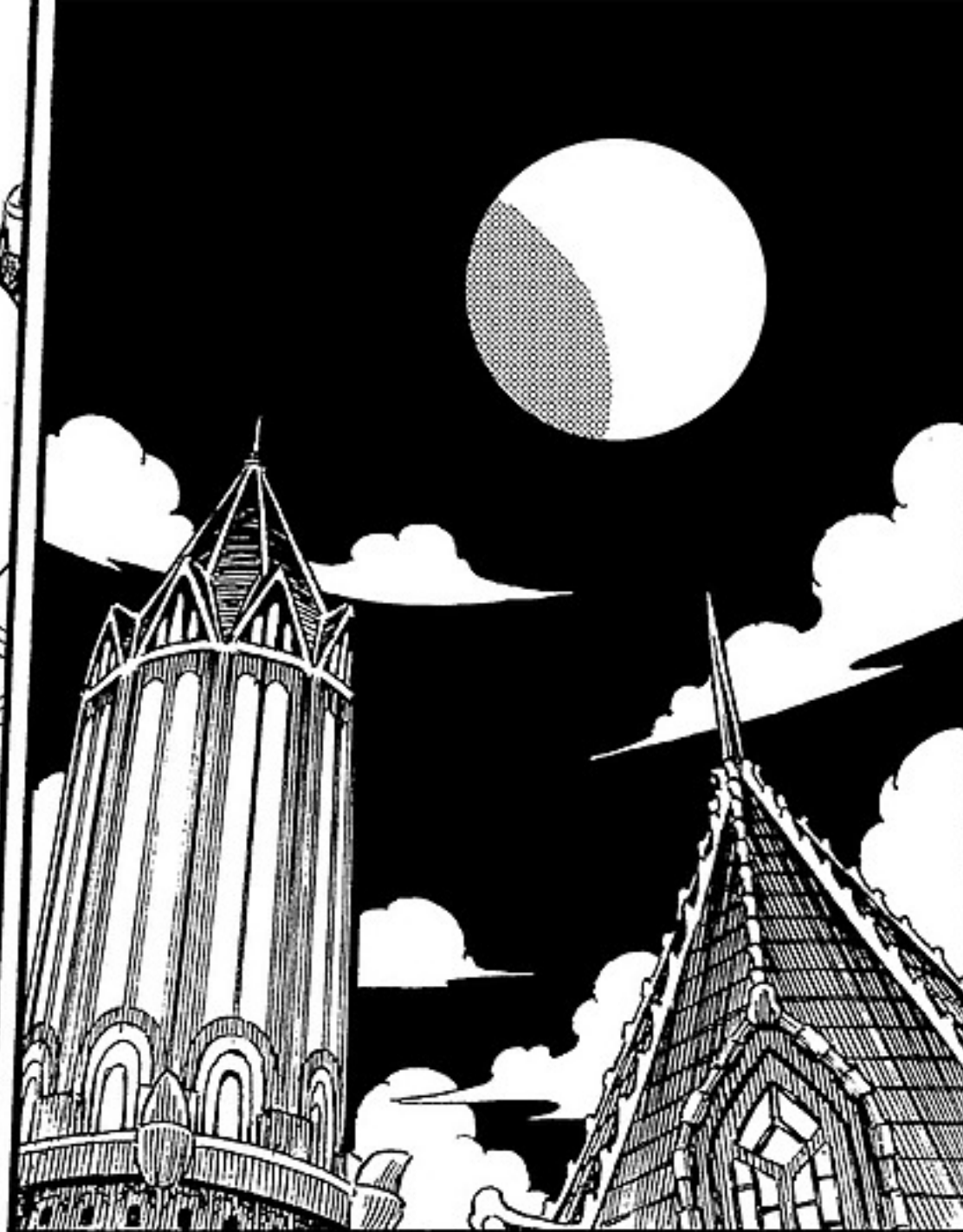
Chapter 324: One Who Would Close the Door







Two people
from the
future...?



Even if there
were three or
four, it wouldn't
surprise me.

Two with the
same mission.
Both came
back to rescue
the nation.

Huh?

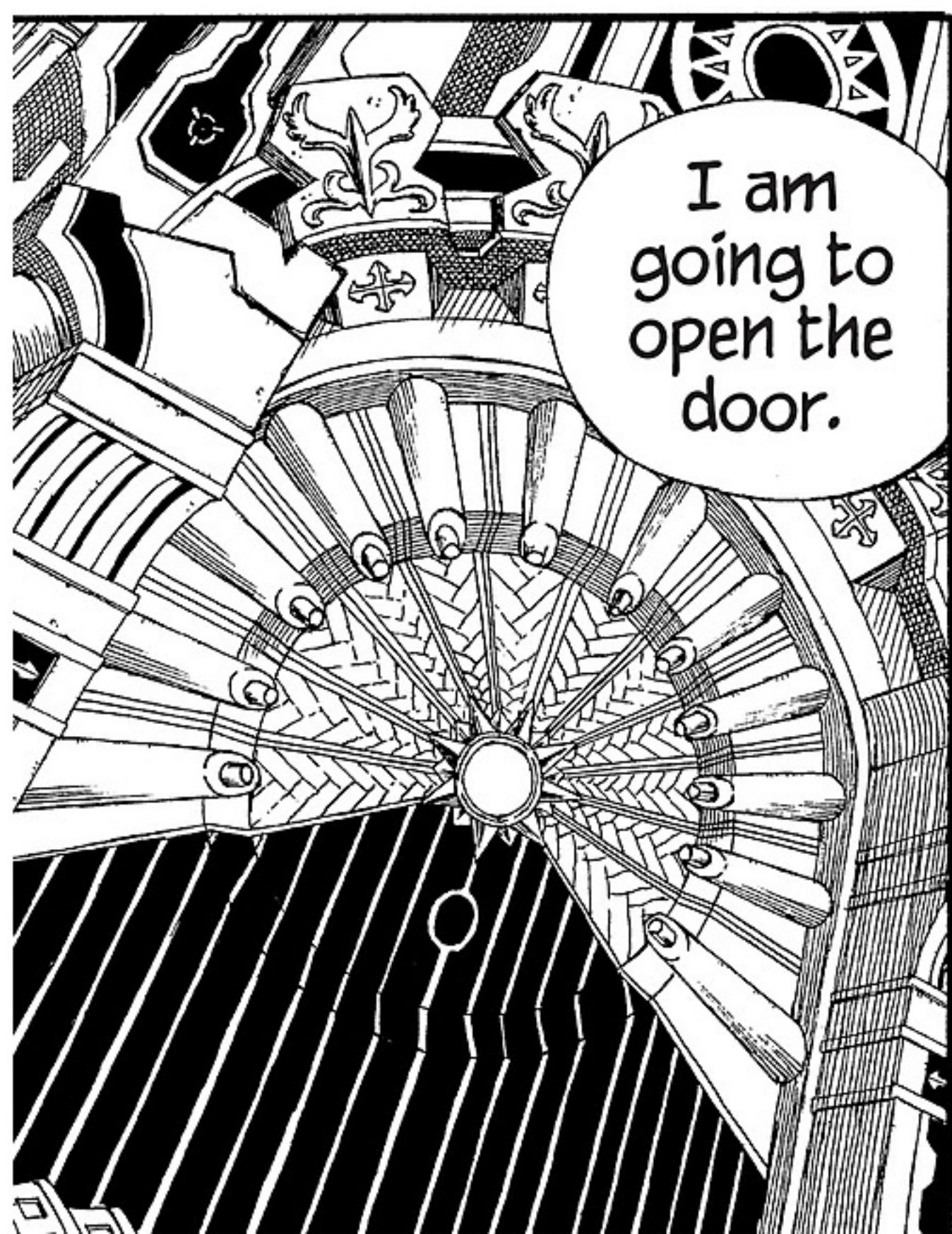


And the other
came back
to warn the
Princess of
the danger.



One is
Lucy.

She came
back to warn
her friends of
the coming
danger.



I am
going to
open the
door.



You are
a knight. Turn
your sword
in the proper
direction.



... I will
draw
my own
sword.

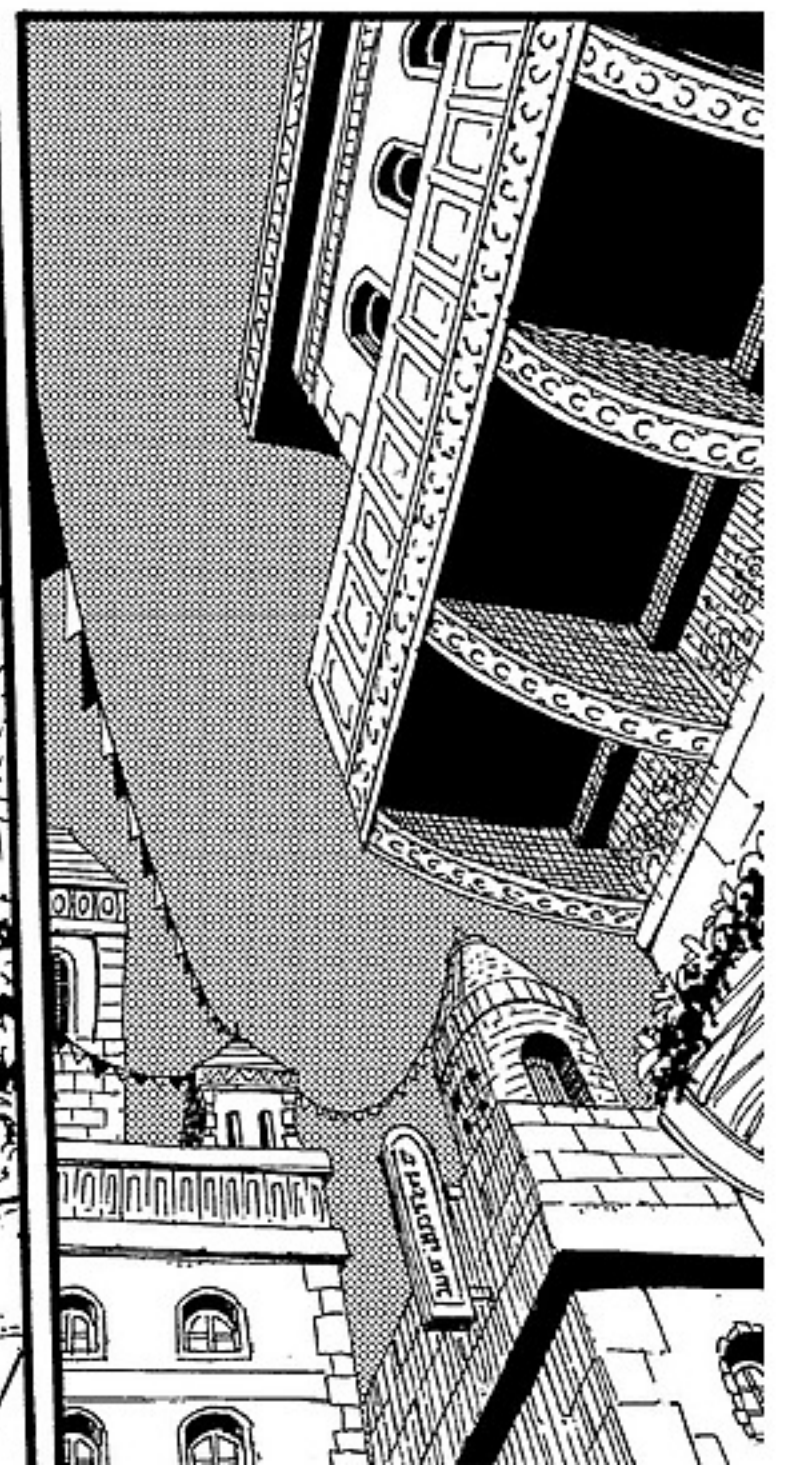
For
the sake of
my country
...

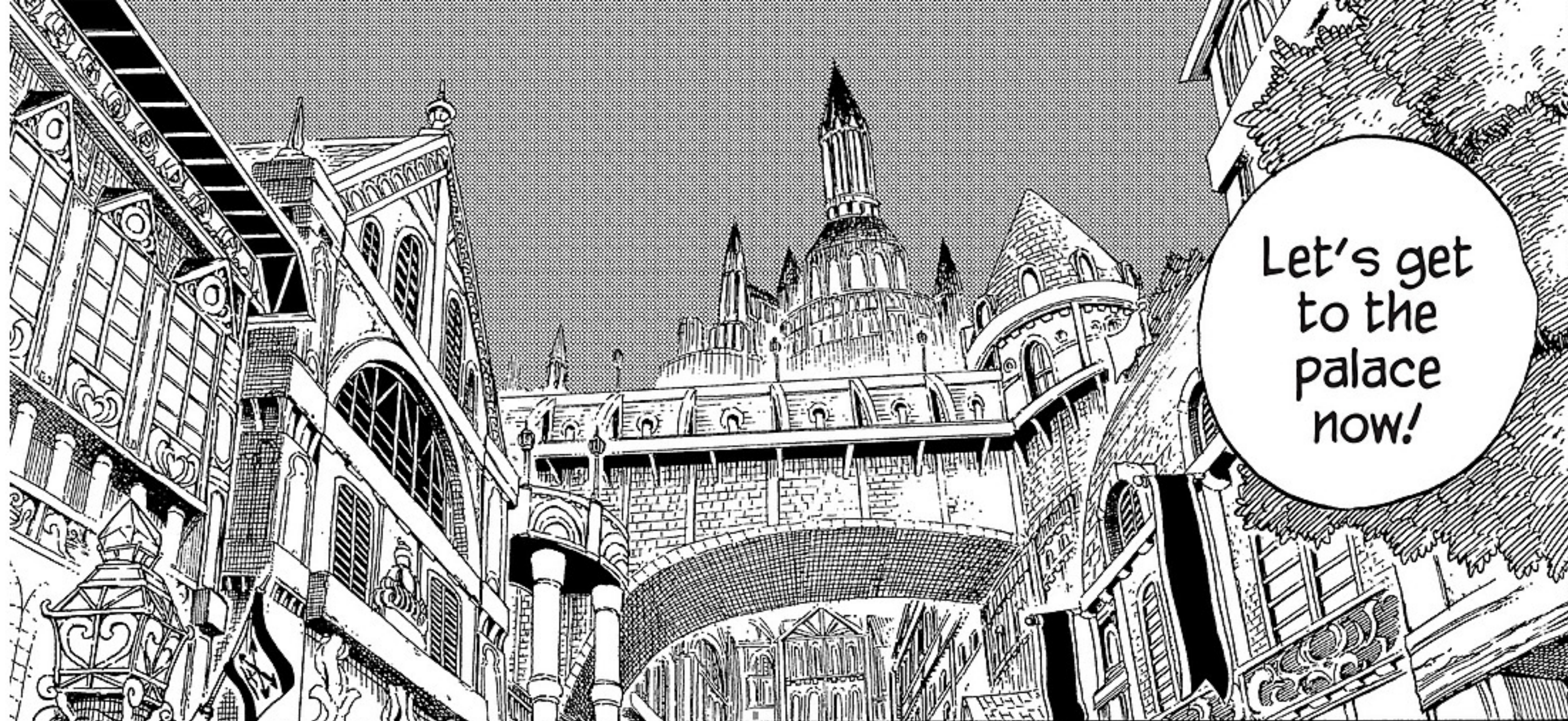


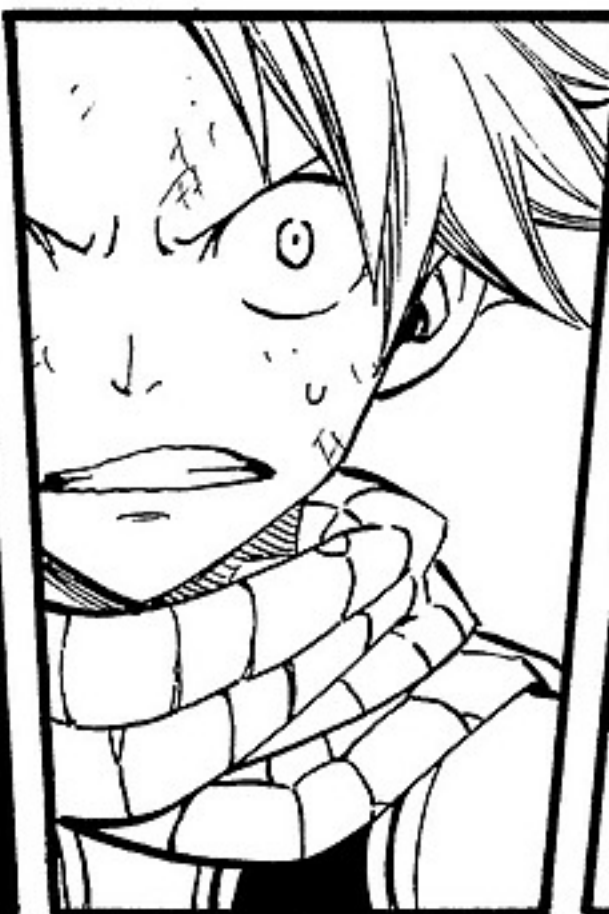
...I don't
know what
that one is
after!

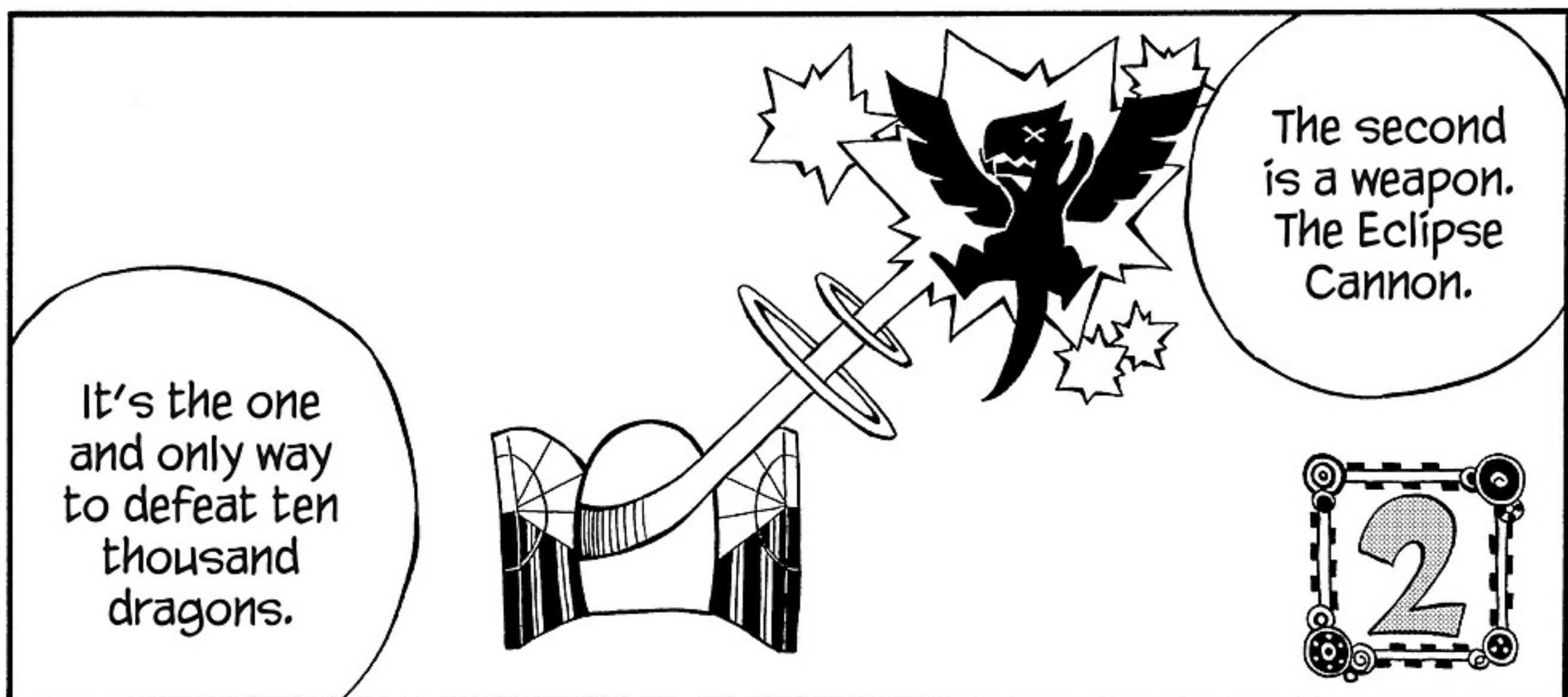
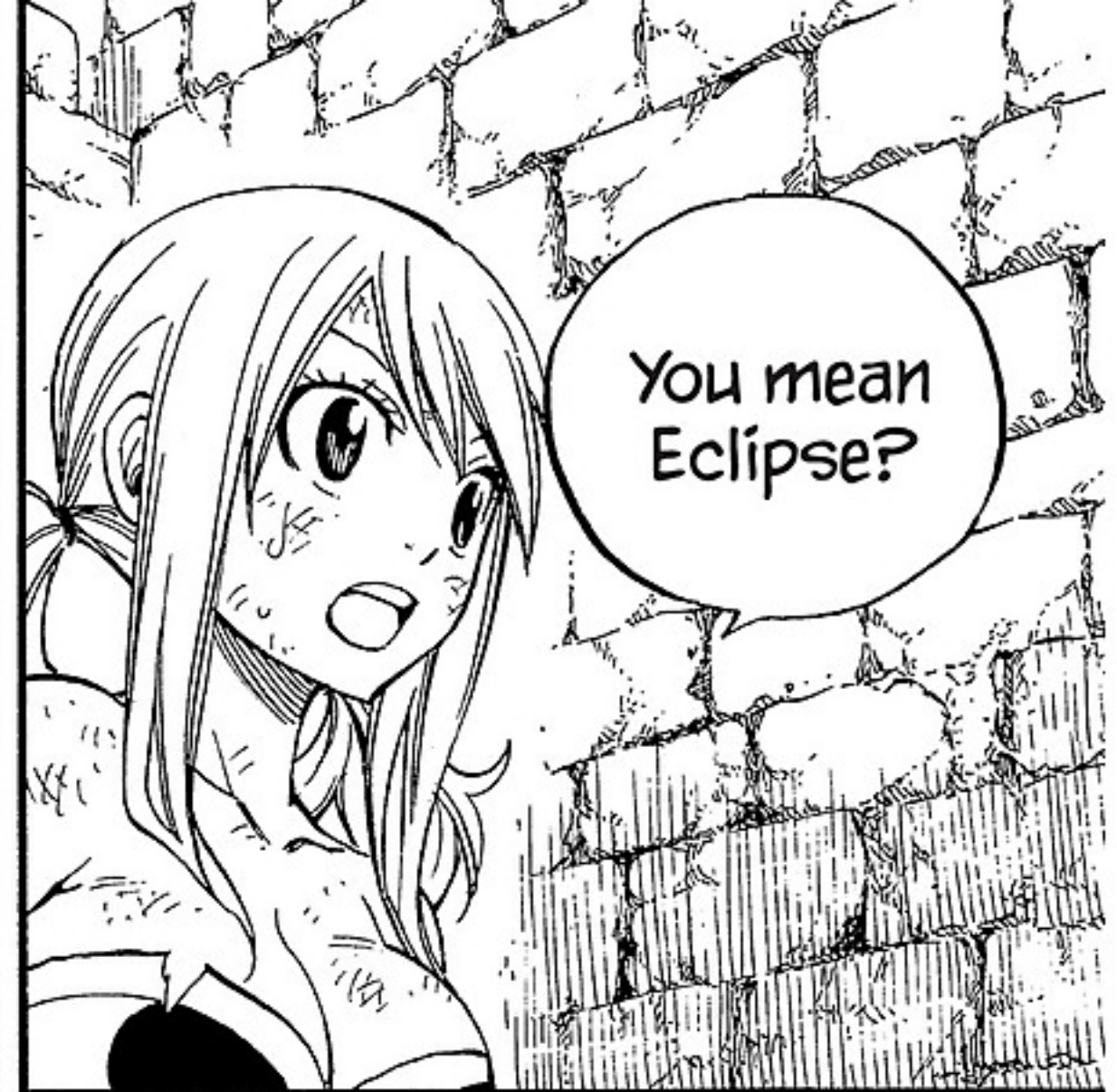
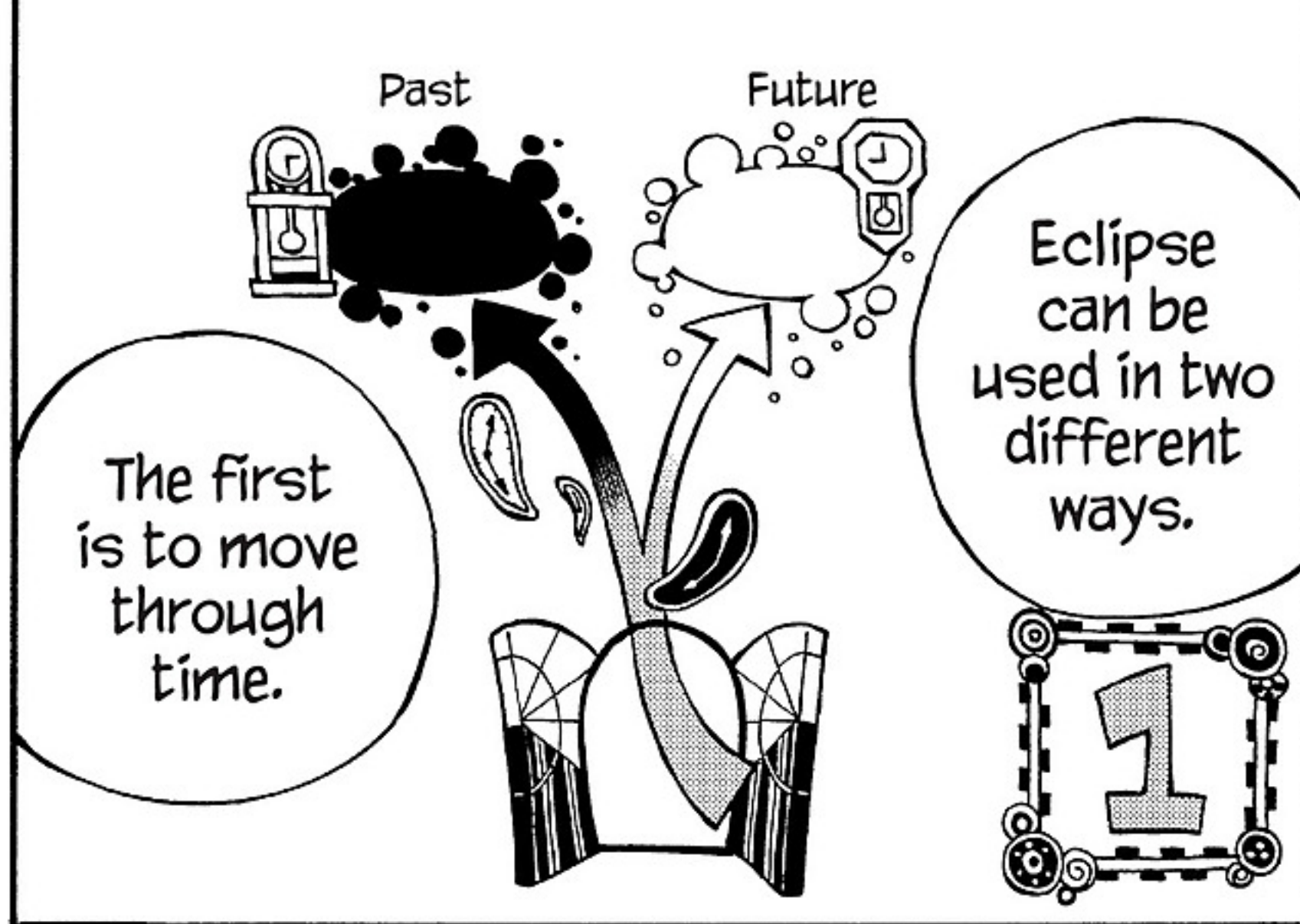


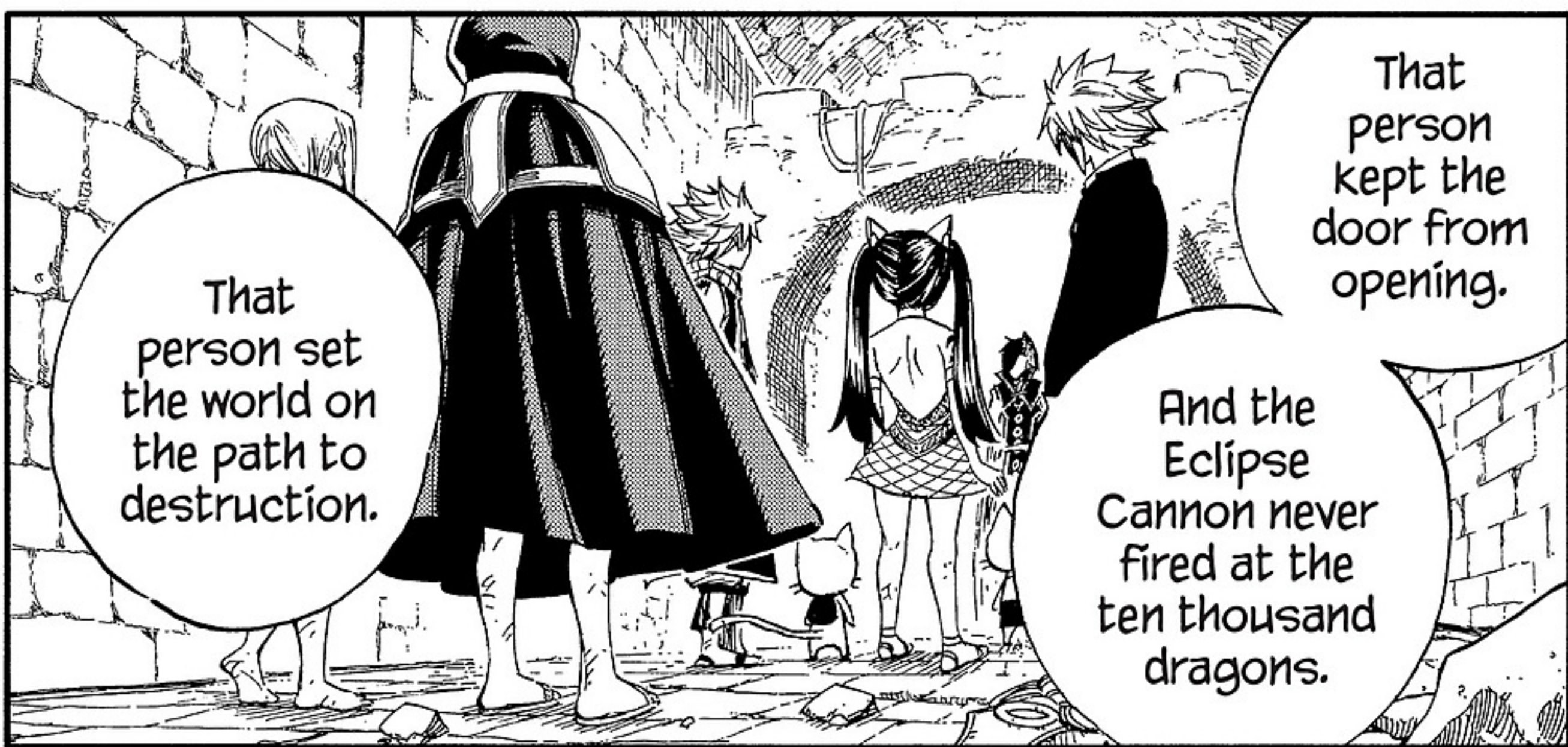
There's one
more person
from the
future...



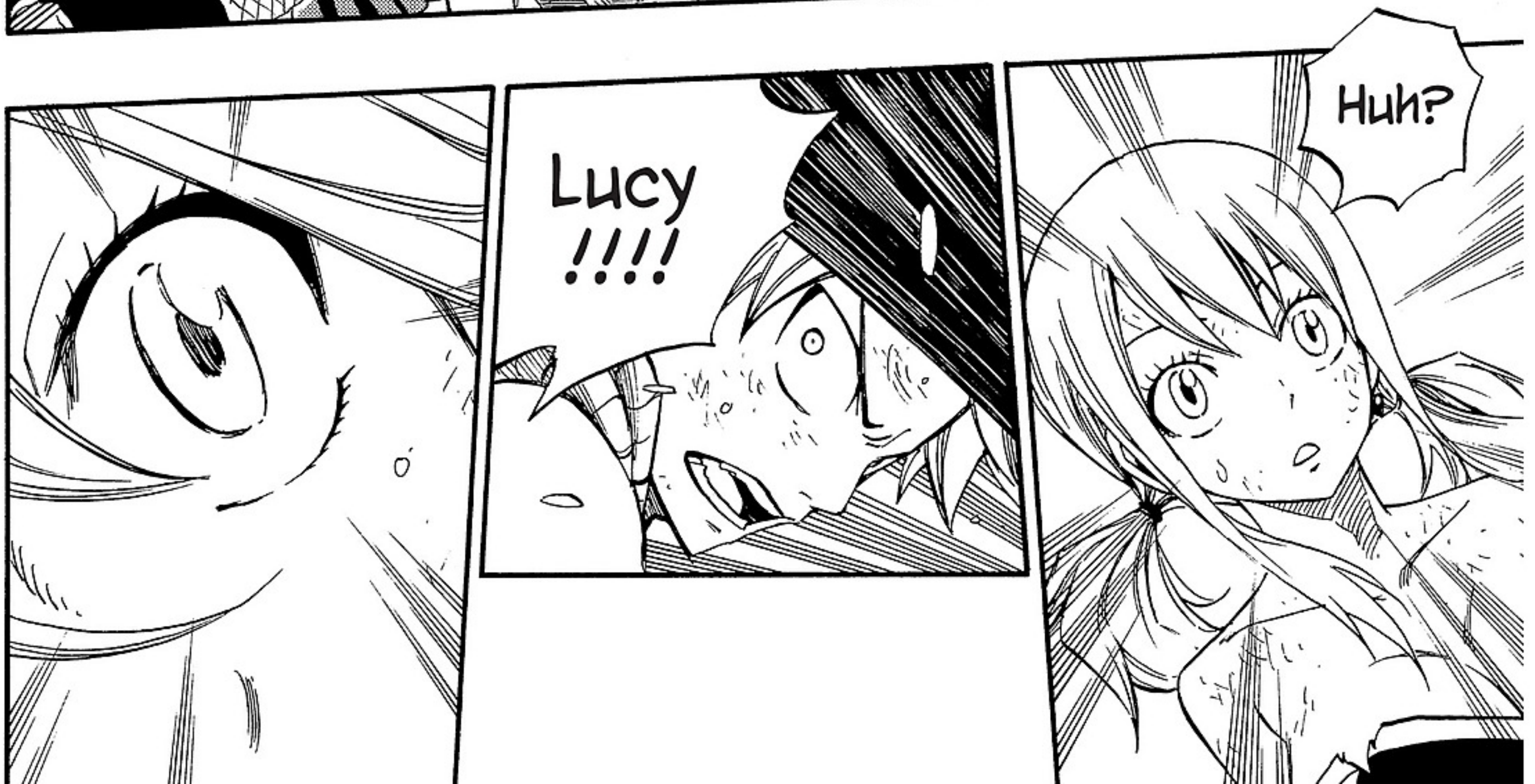


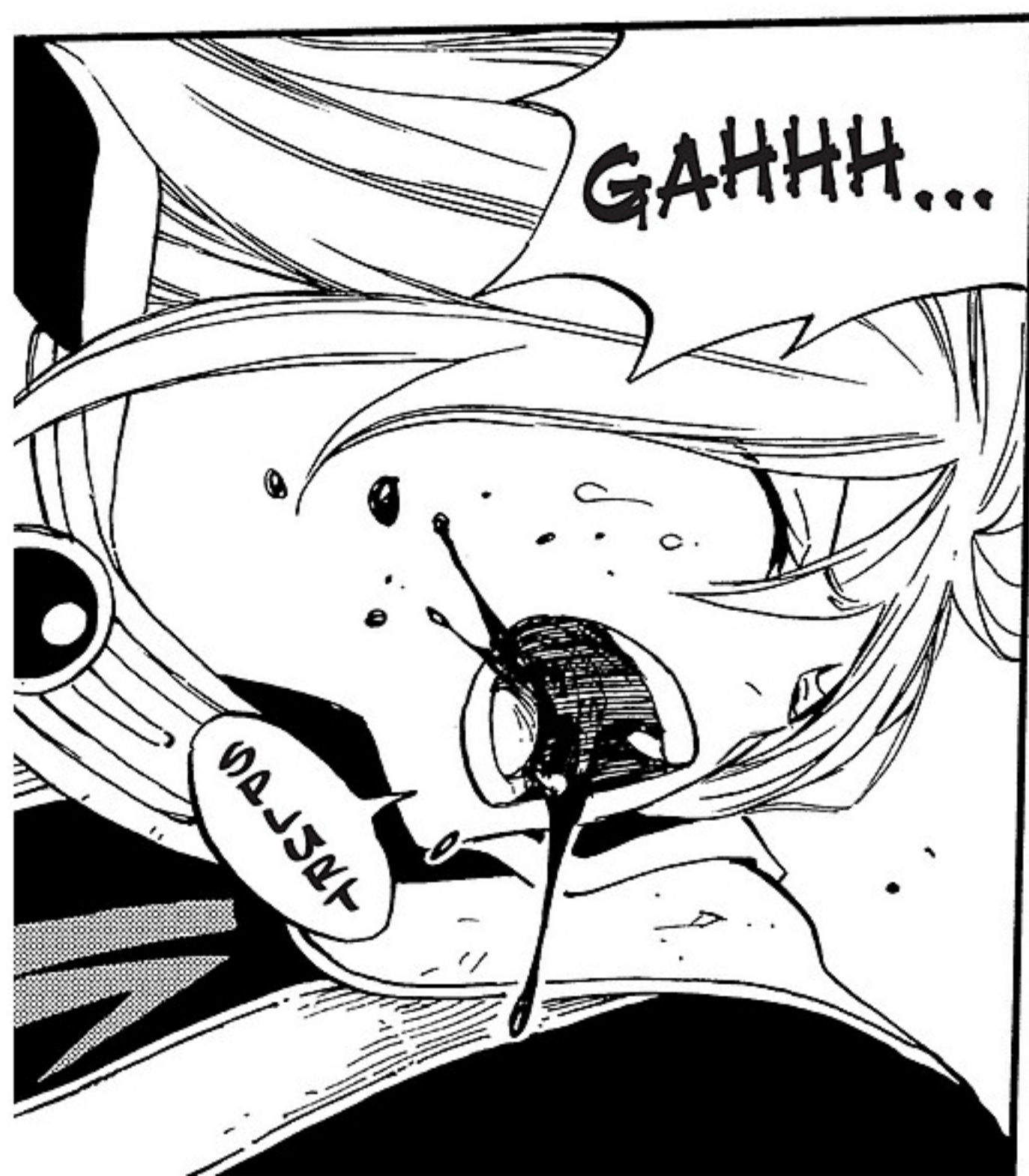








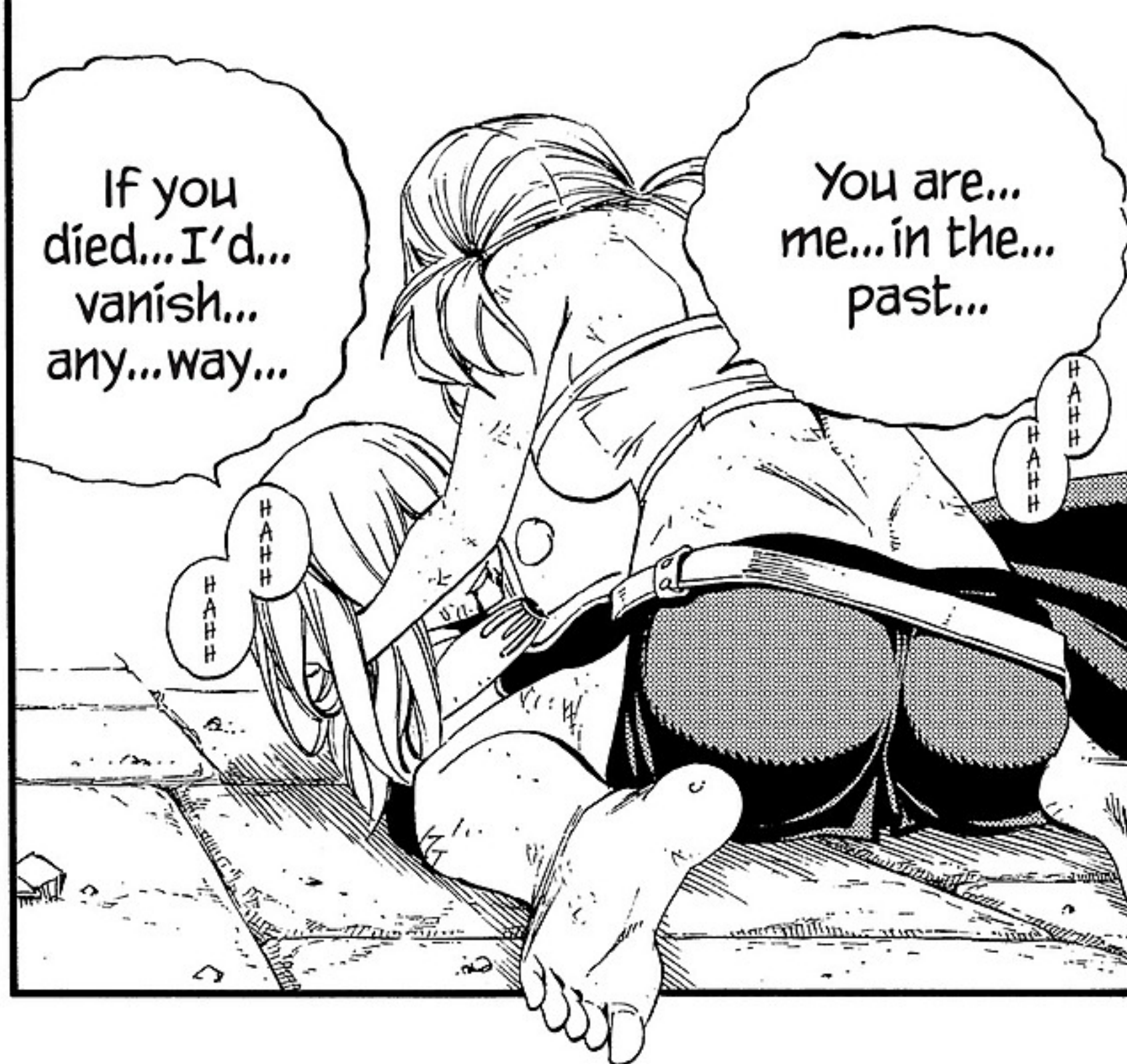








It's weird...
you know...?
Watching...
myself...watch
me...die...



If you
died...I'd...
vanish...
any...way...

You are...
me...in the...
past...



Why
would you
protect
your
younger
self?!



...and now
I meet
them...
again...

People
I never...
thought I'd
see...alive...



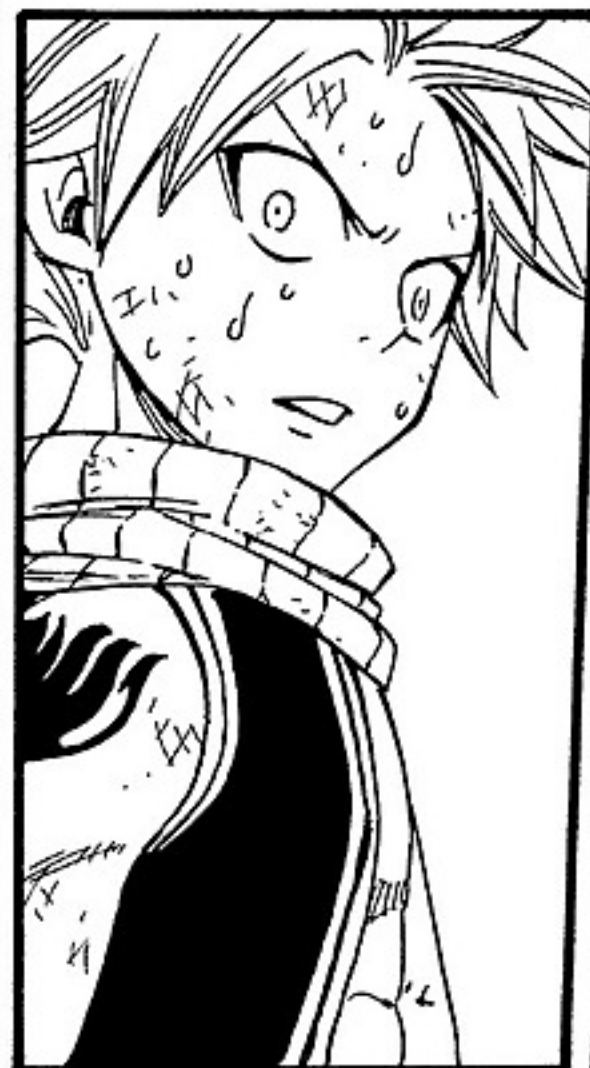
It's...
all...
right
...



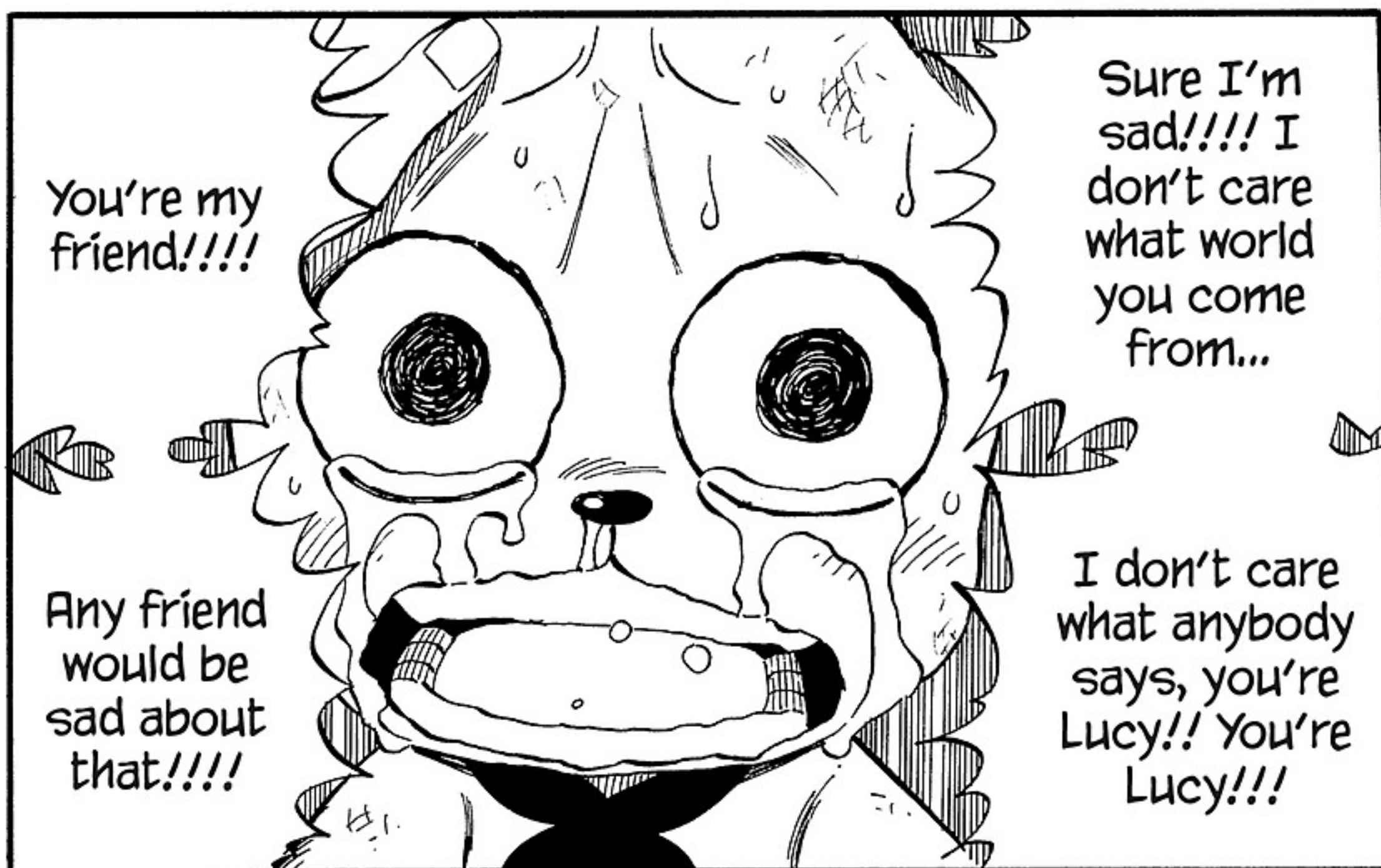
It's weird
for me too!
So *don't* die,
okay?!!



Just...that
made...me...so...
happy...



Lucy, no...
Don't die...



You're my
friend!!!!

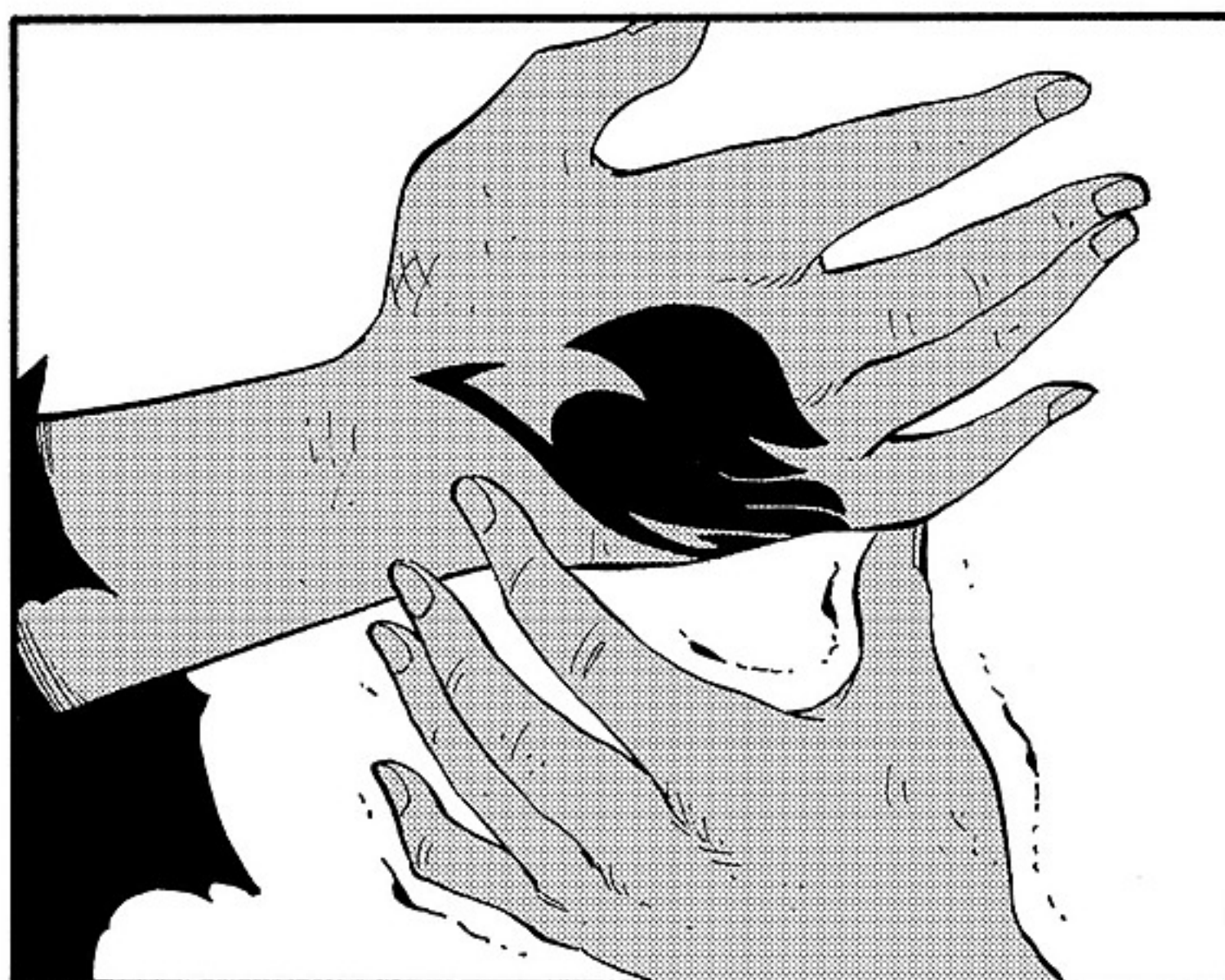
Any friend
would be
sad about
that!!!!

Sure I'm
sad!!!! I
don't care
what world
you come
from...

I don't care
what anybody
says, you're
Lucy!! You're
Lucy!!!



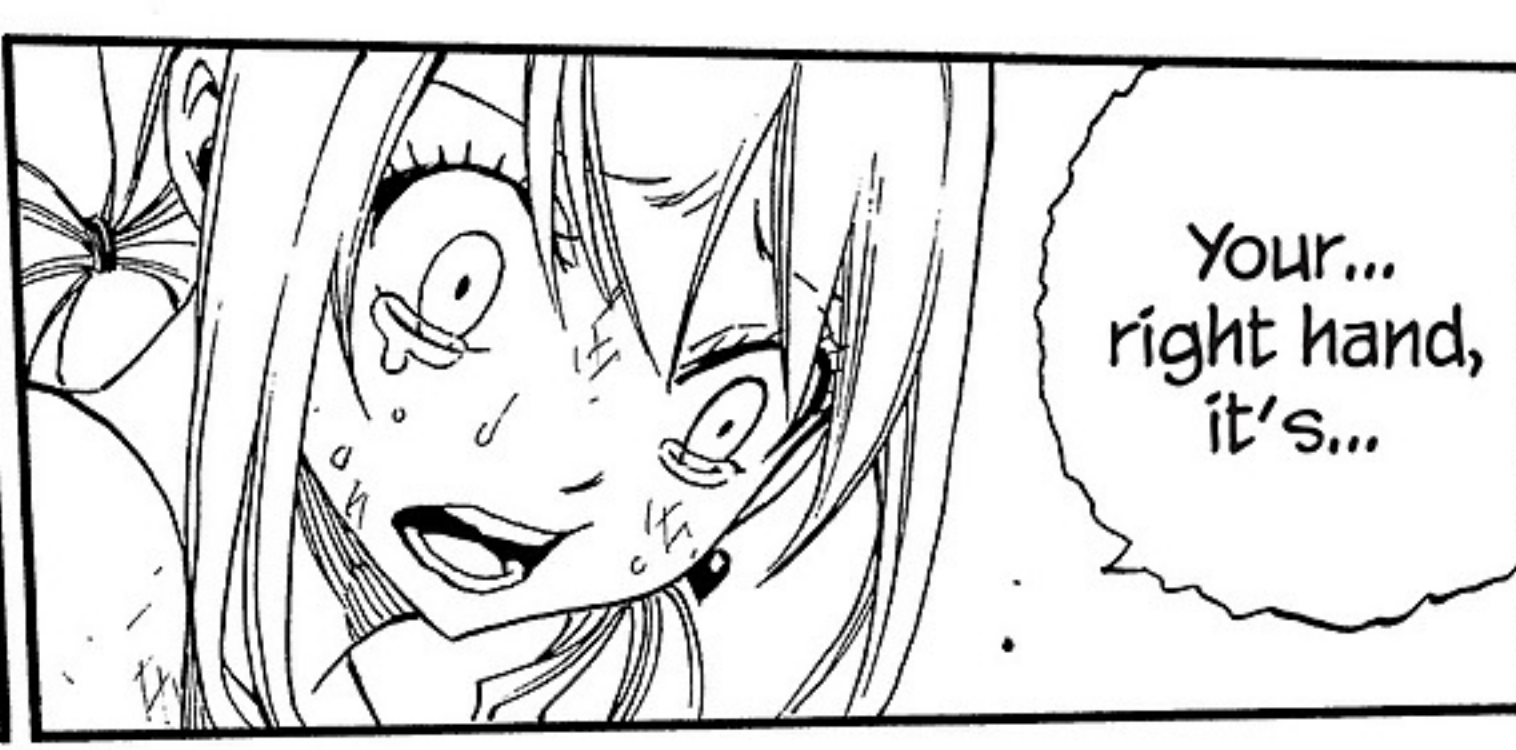
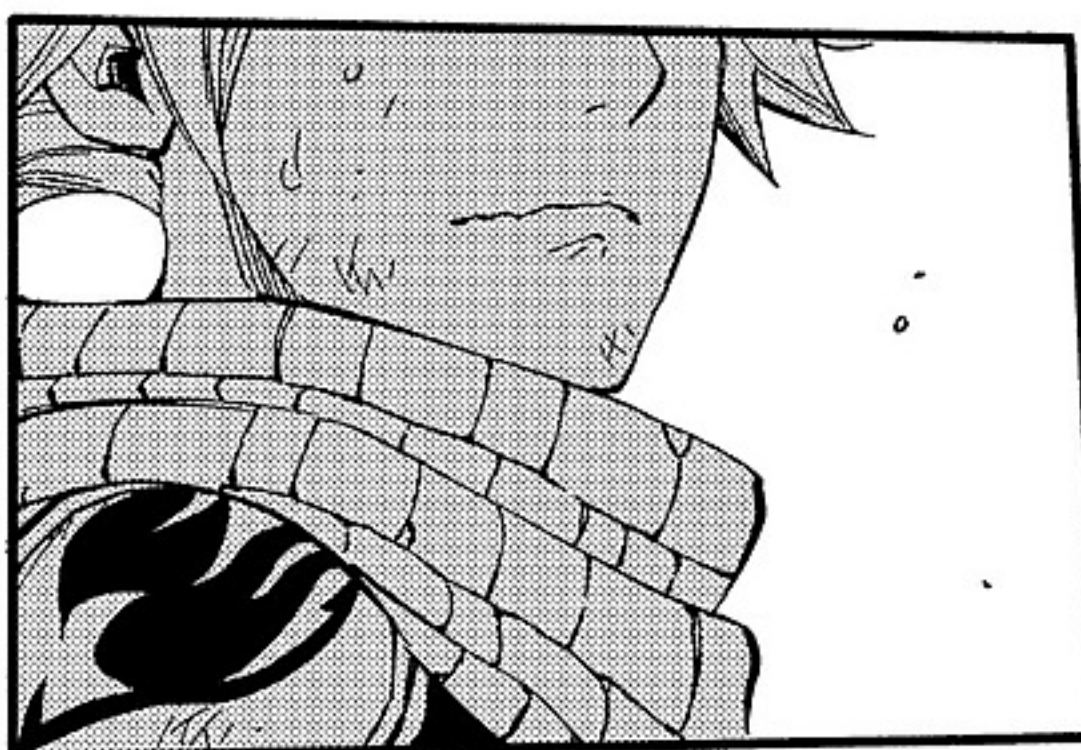
Don't...
be sad...



Huh?

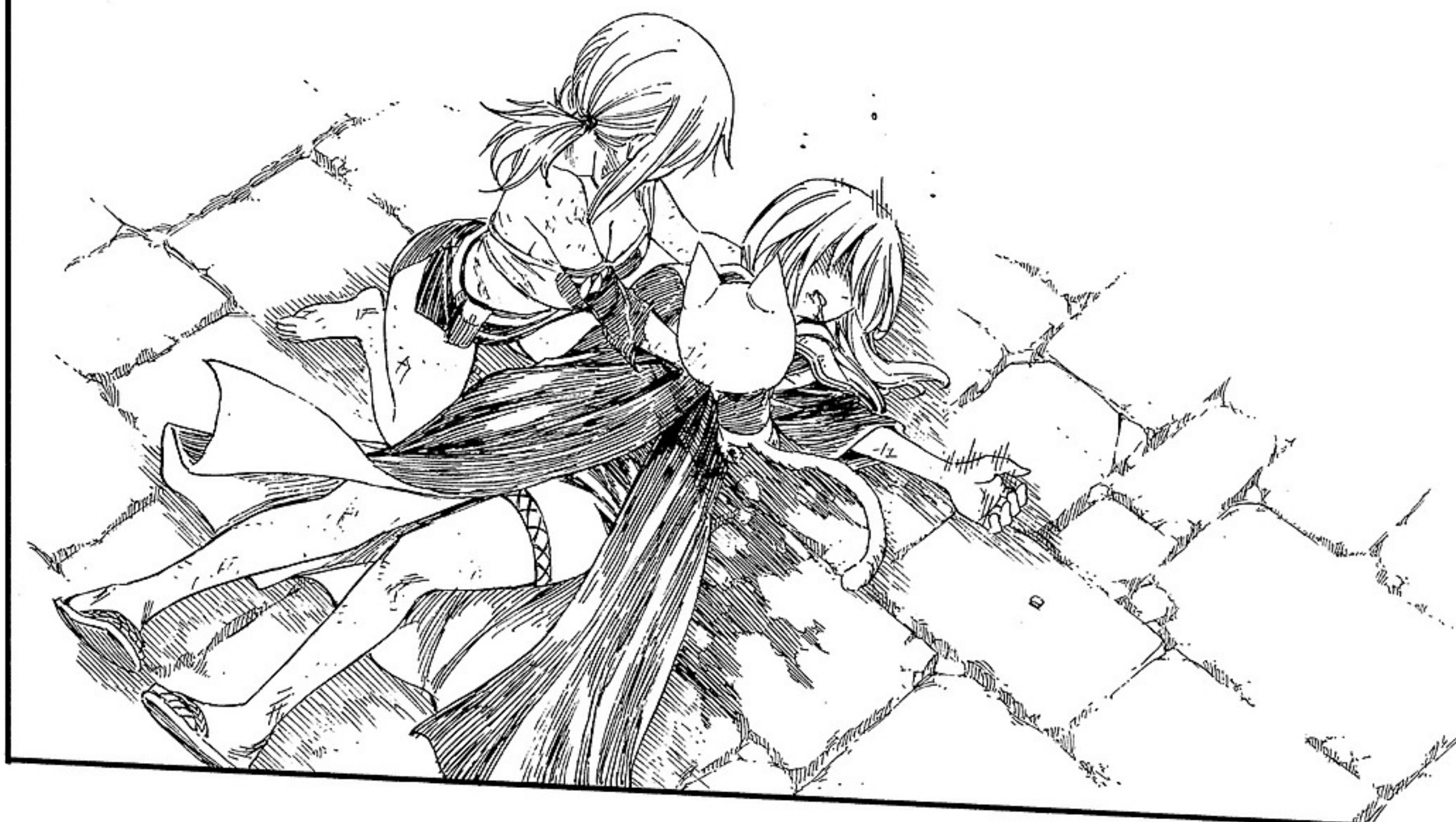
Could...
you show
me... your
guild
mark...





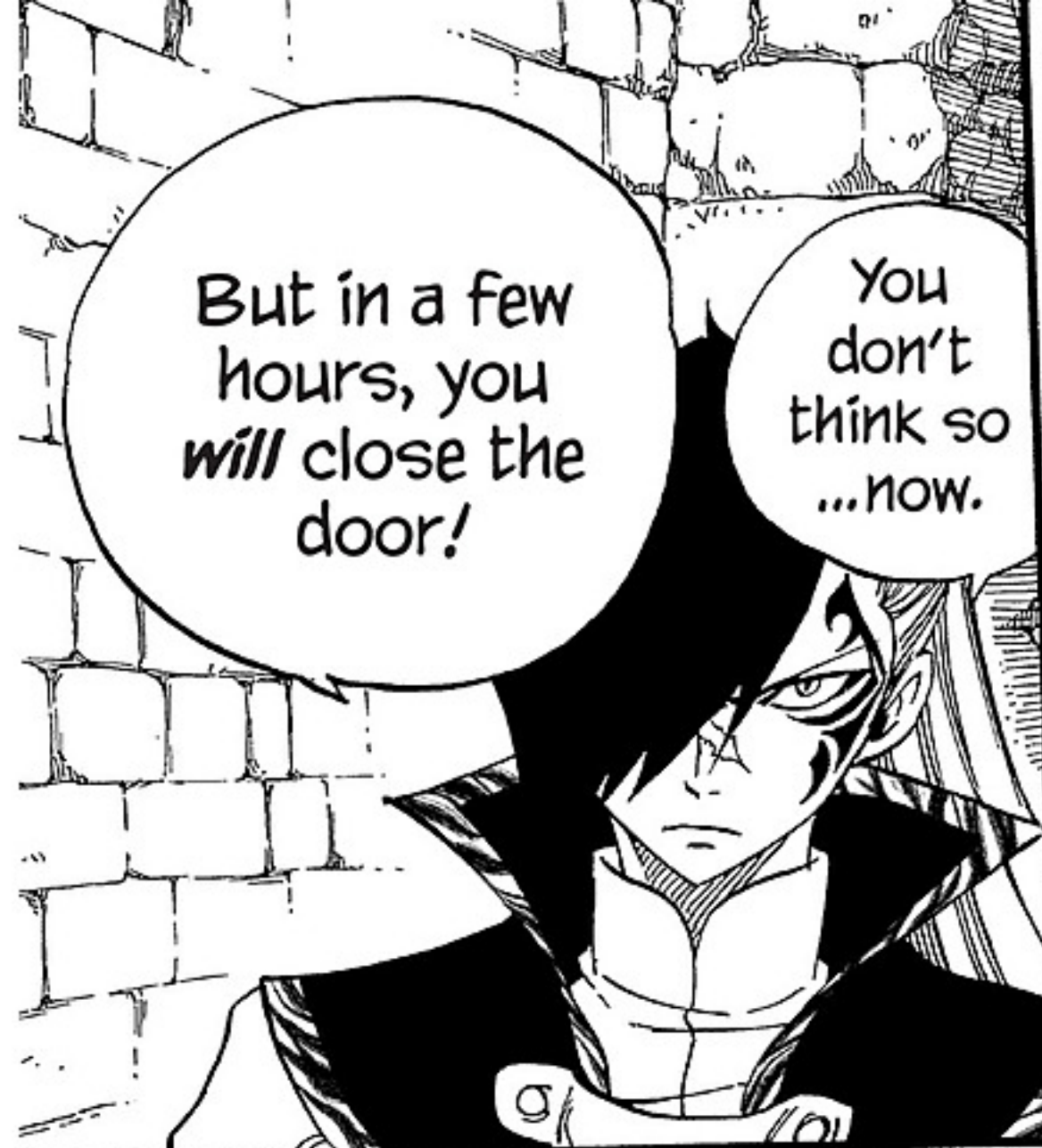
Protect...

...the...
future...



She doesn't
realize she
closed the
door...





But in a few hours, you *will* close the door!

You don't think so ...now.



I would never do such a thing!!!! And still you...

What about the damn door?!!!



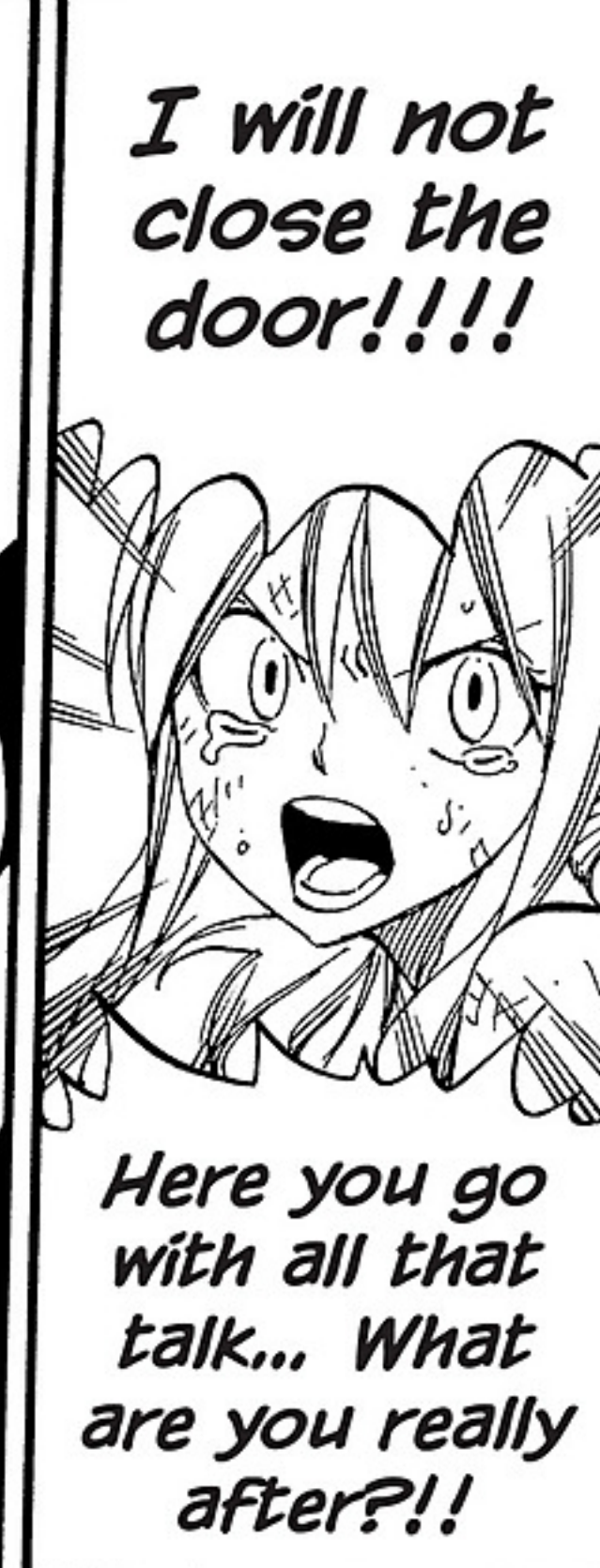
The future me already said she didn't close it!!!!

And I trust myself!!!!



As long as you are alive...

You are fated to close the door!!!



I will not close the door!!!!

Here you go with all that talk... What are you really after?!!

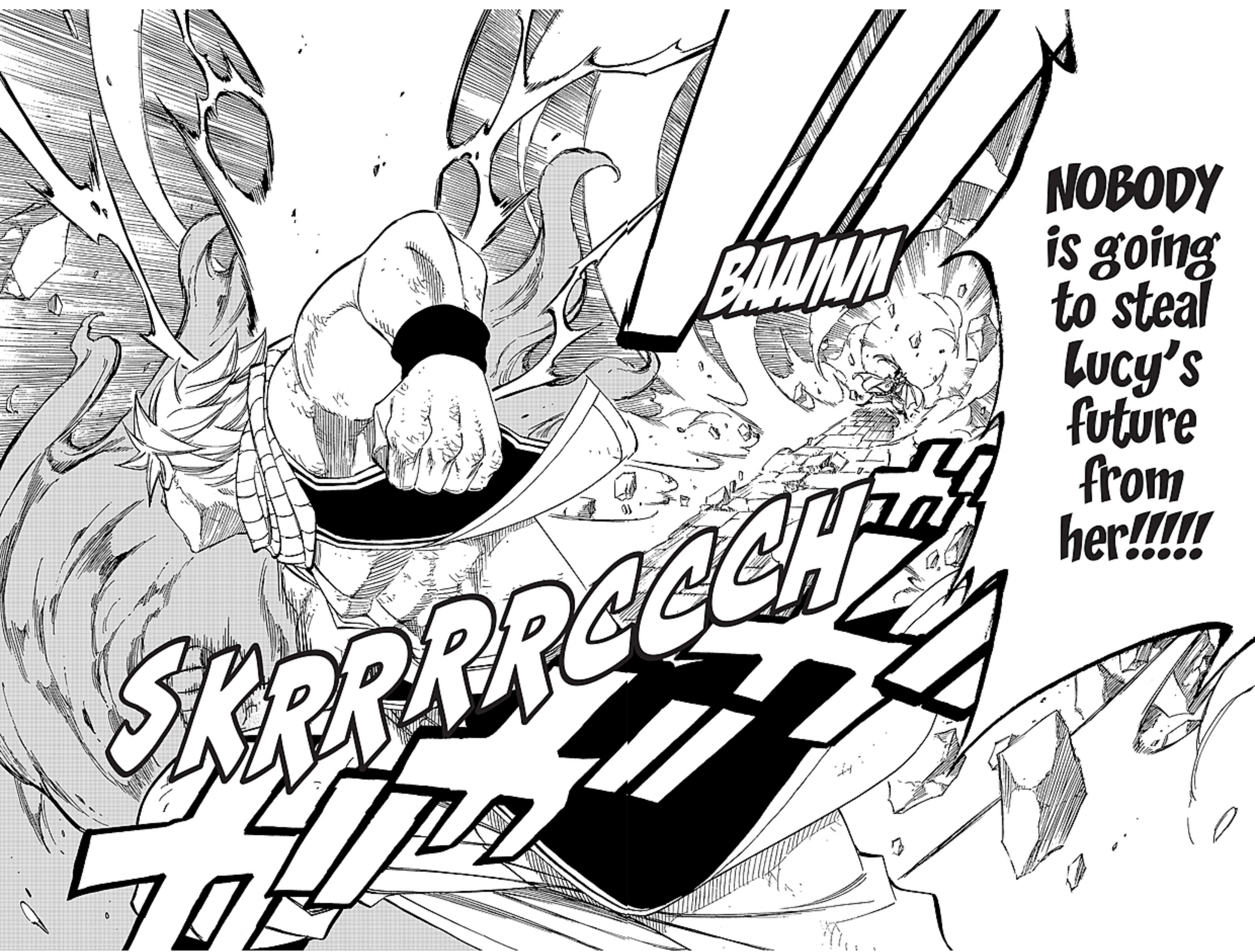


Then I'll burn that destiny up!!!!



Destiny has decided everything here !!!!

There is no truth in your words !!!!



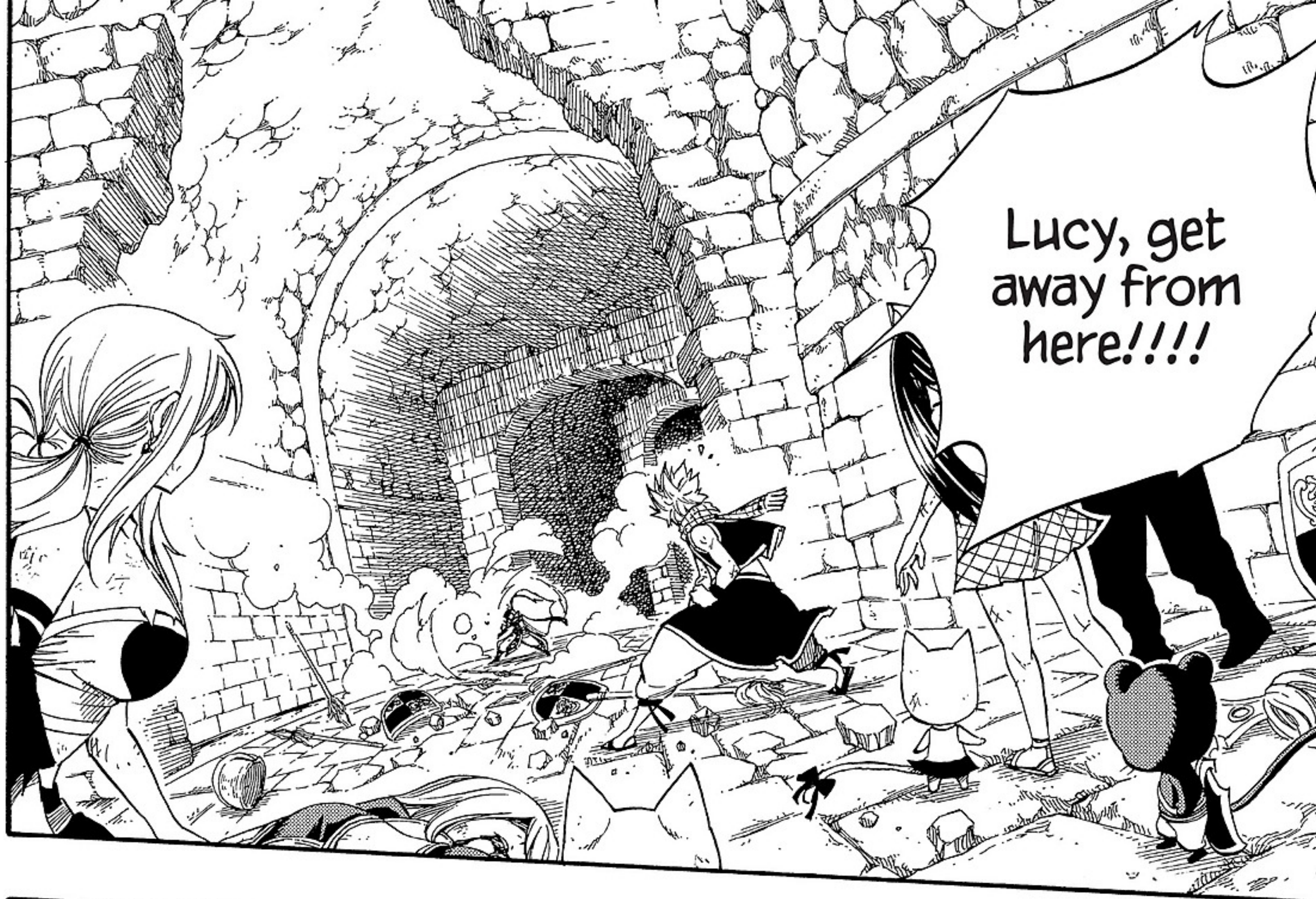
NOBODY
is going
to steal
Lucy's
future
from
her!!!!

*Protect
the
future...*



**I promise
you that
!!!!**





Lucy, get away from here!!!!



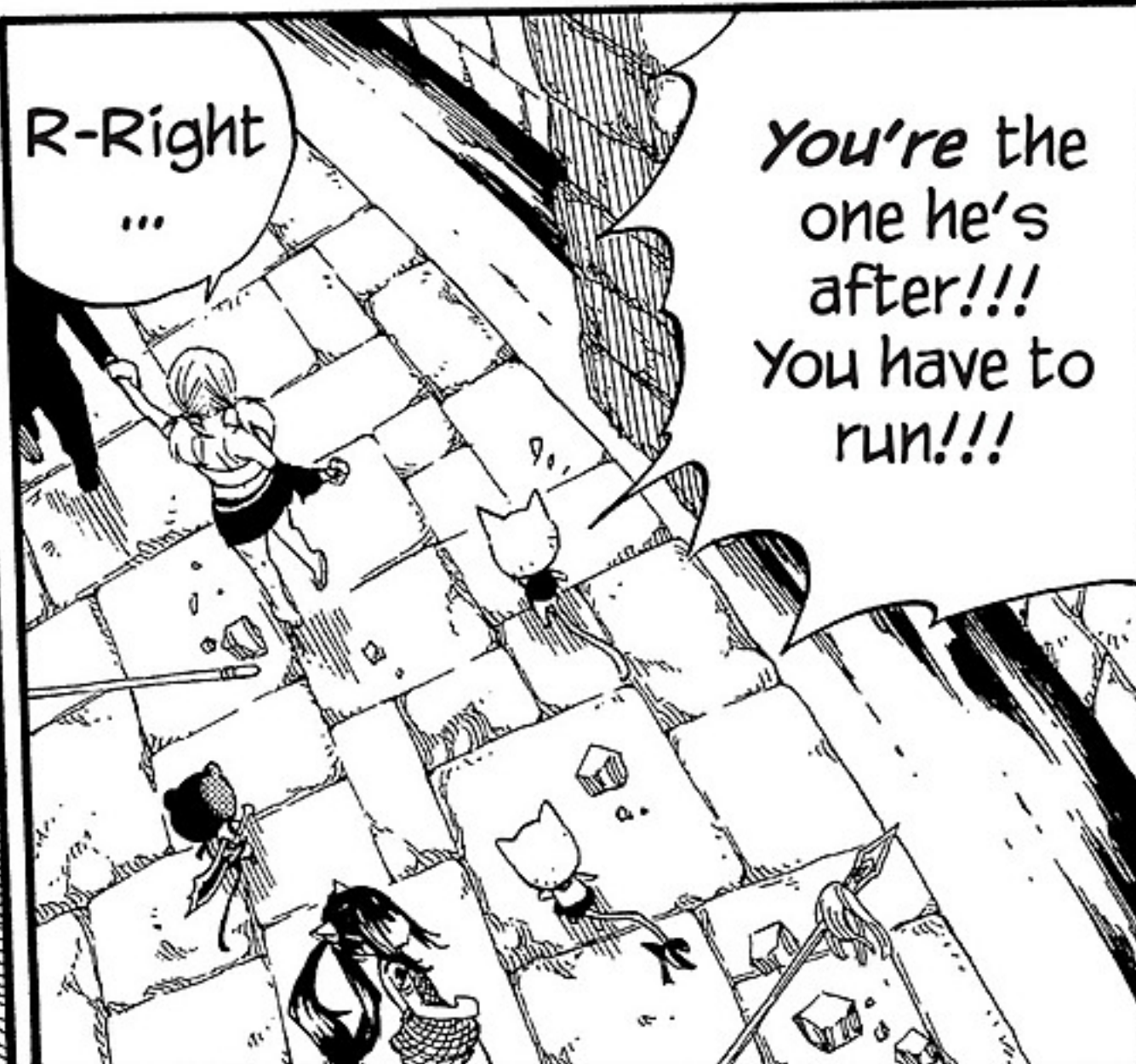
We're going to let Natsu handle things here!



But ...!!!



You're not getting away !!!



R-Right ...

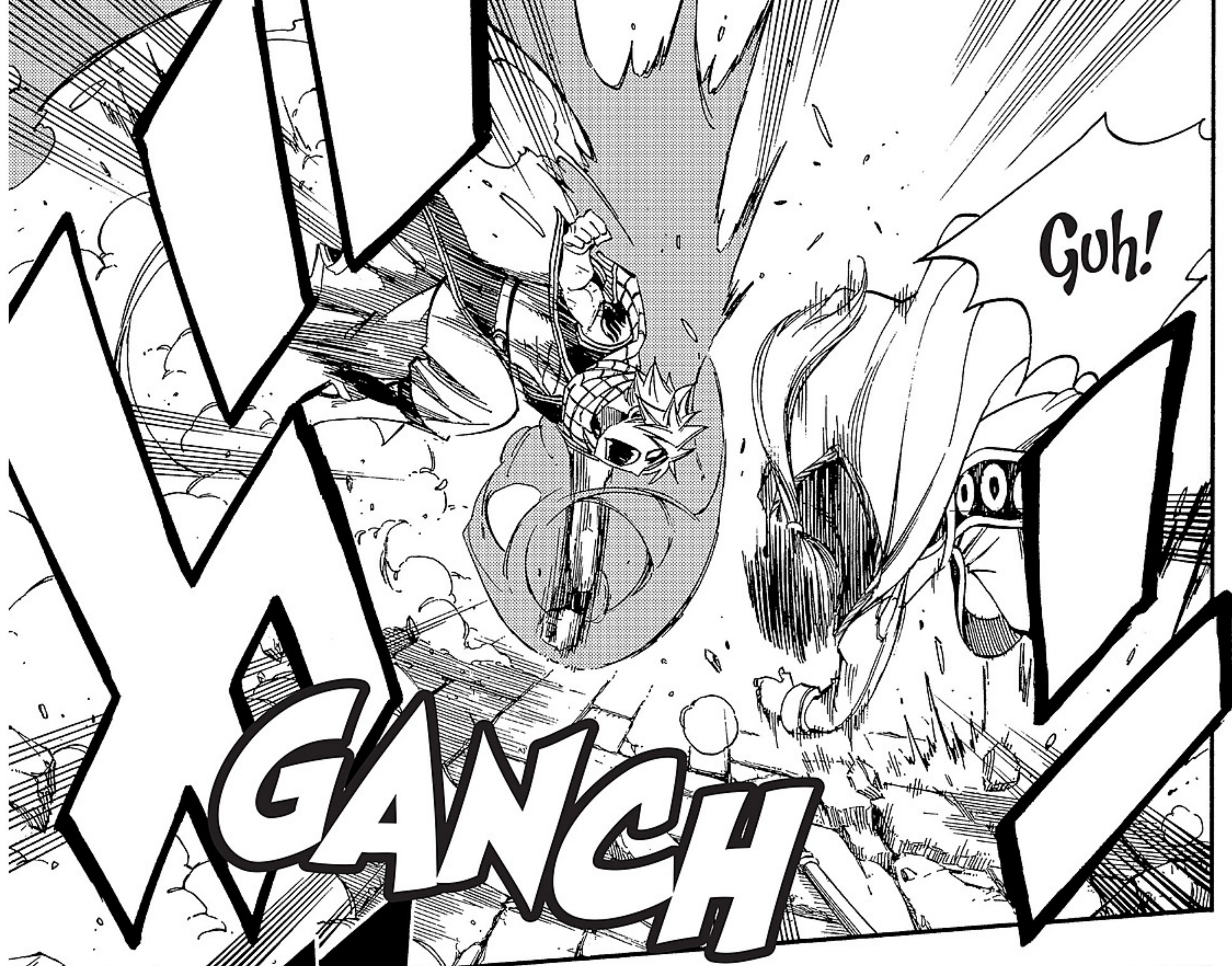
You're the one he's after!!! You have to run!!!

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 325: Solidarity!!!!







But no matter what happens, you are fated to be killed by a dragon.

So it will not change fate if I were to finish you off here!



I planned for the possibility that you would stand against me.



So die here and now, Natsu Dragneel!!



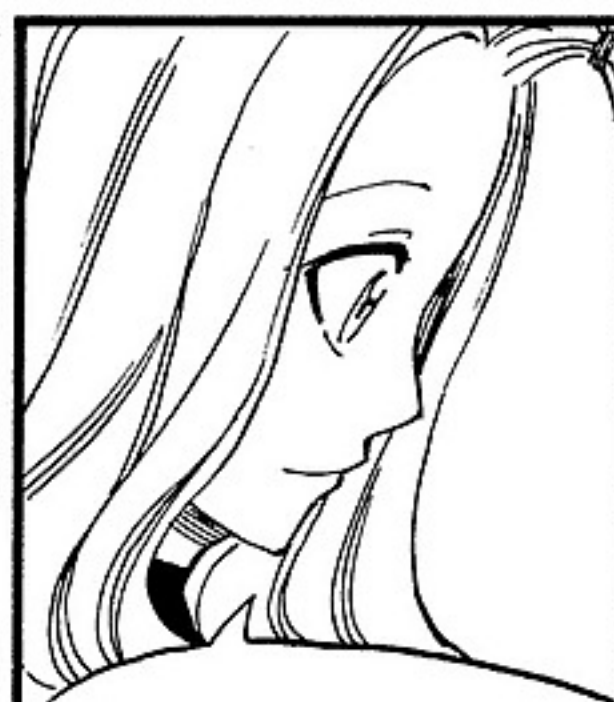
I didn't know you were such a jerk!



The years will change anyone.

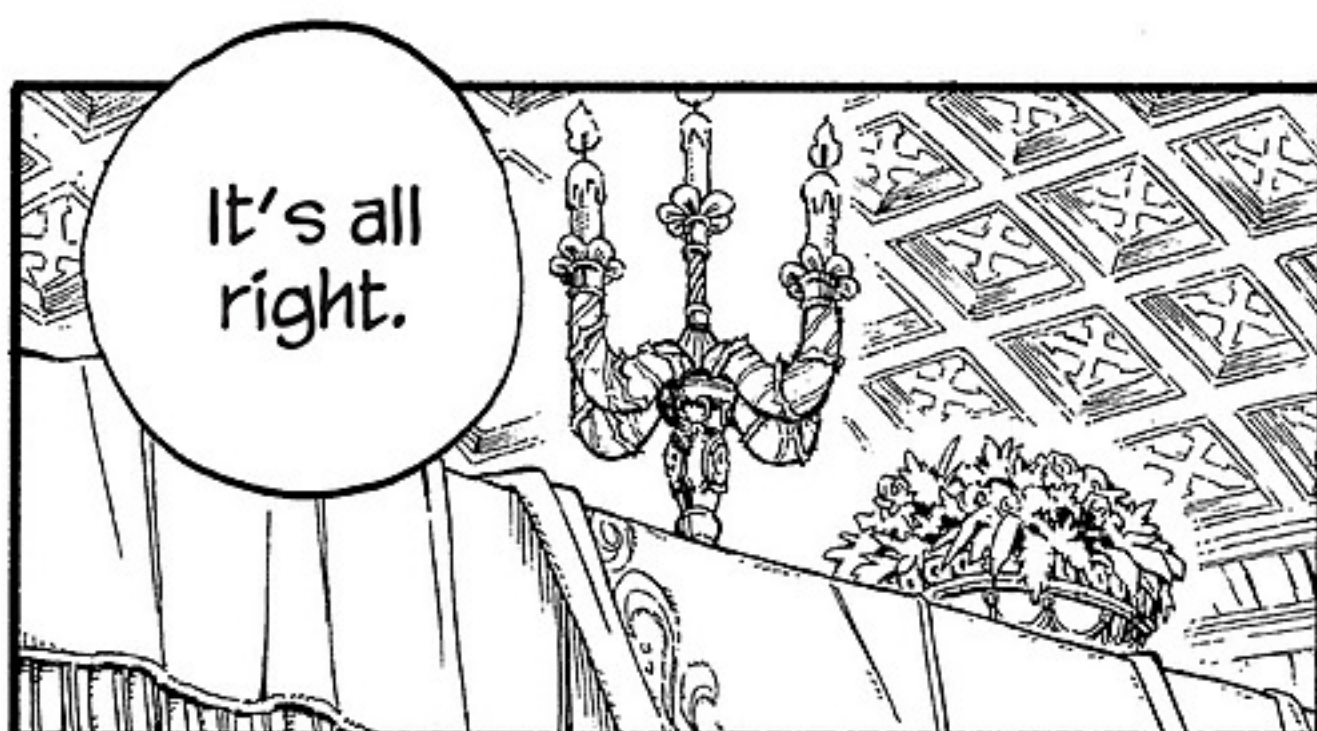


But...



Nobody I
call a friend
blames their
own bad luck
on anybody
else.

It has always
been true...even
from long ago...
Those I am with
suffer from
foul luck.

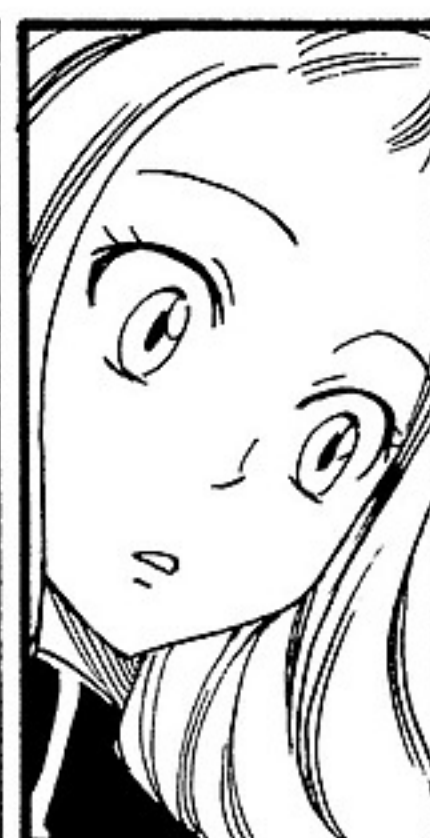
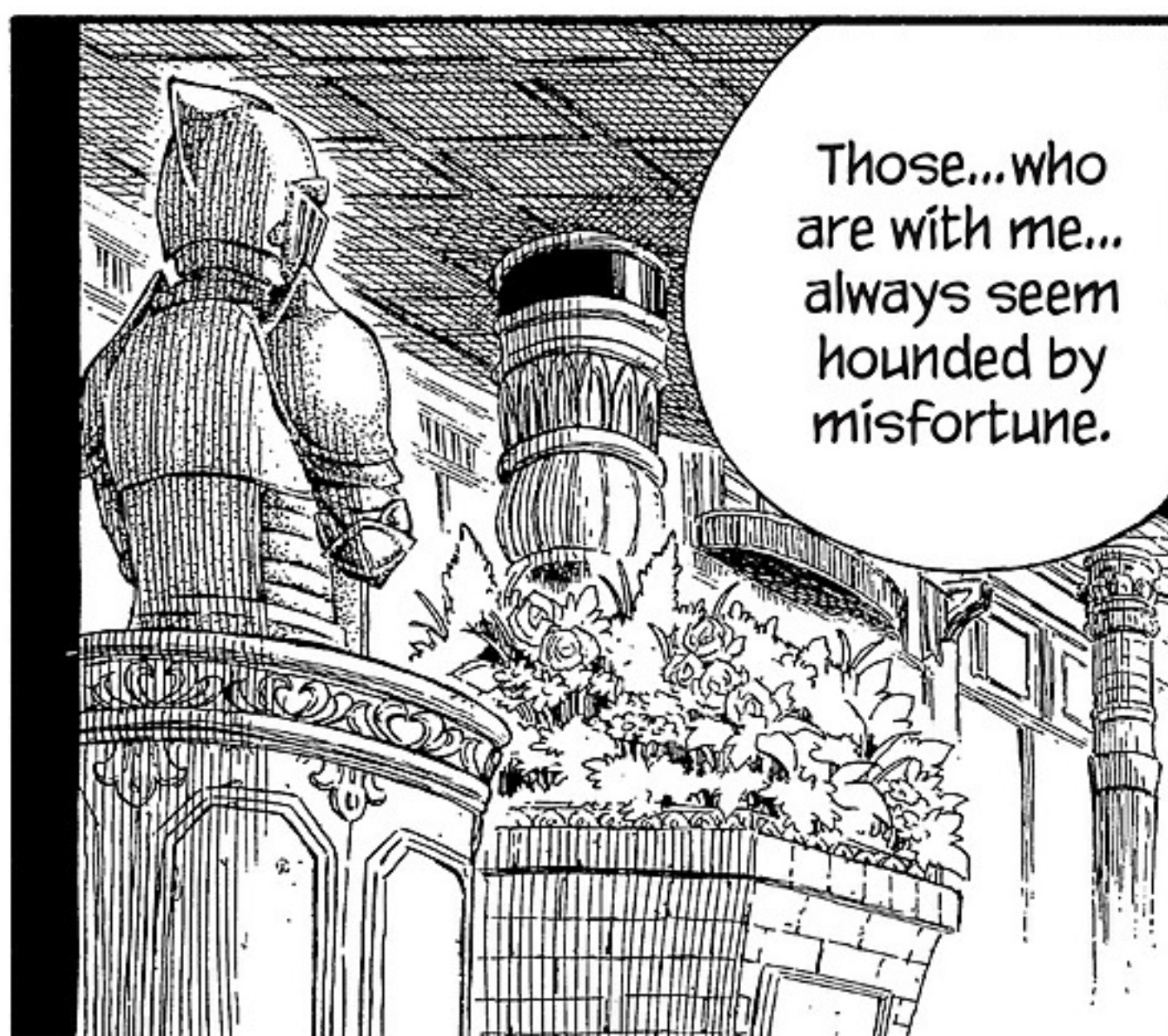
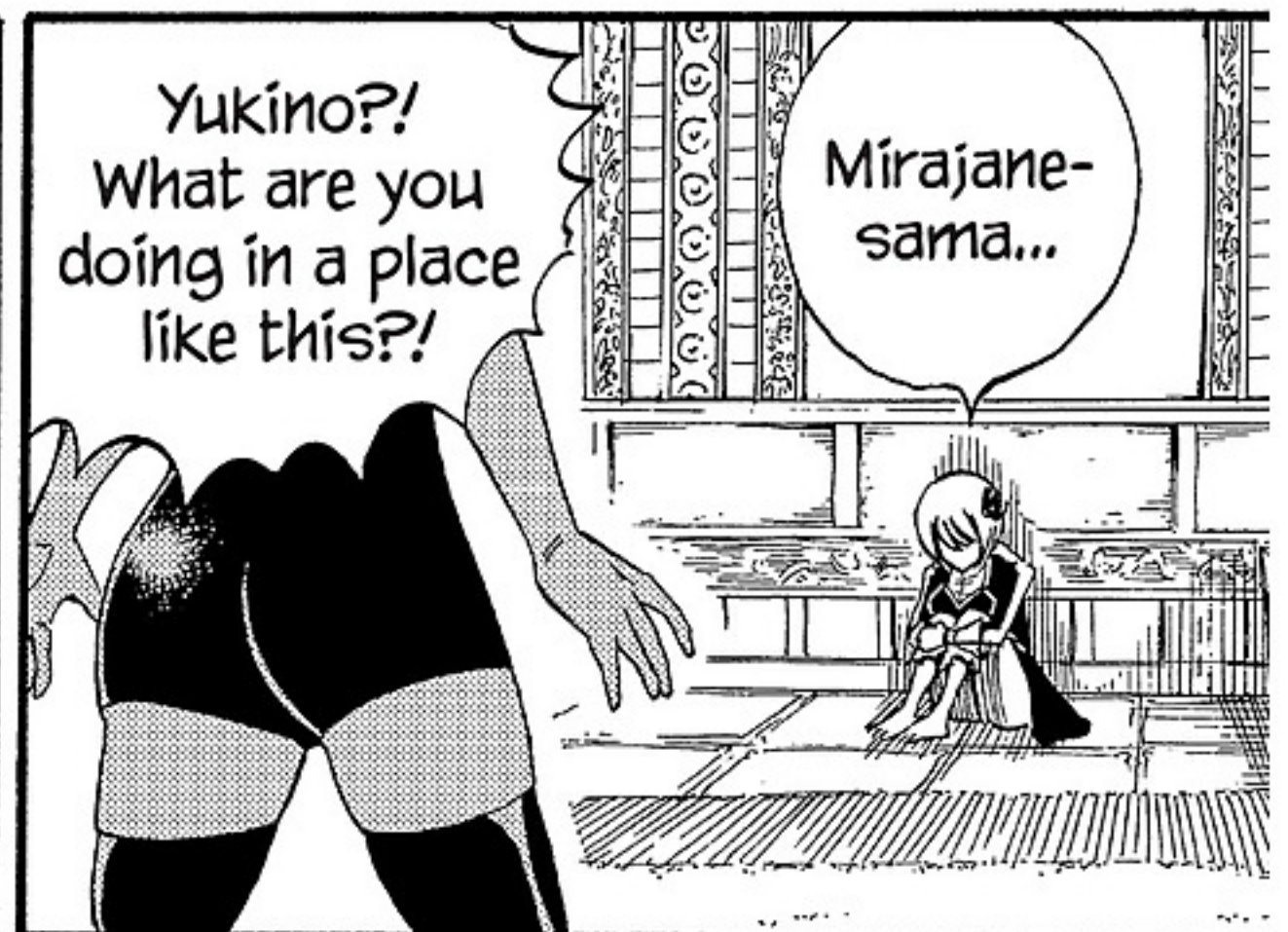
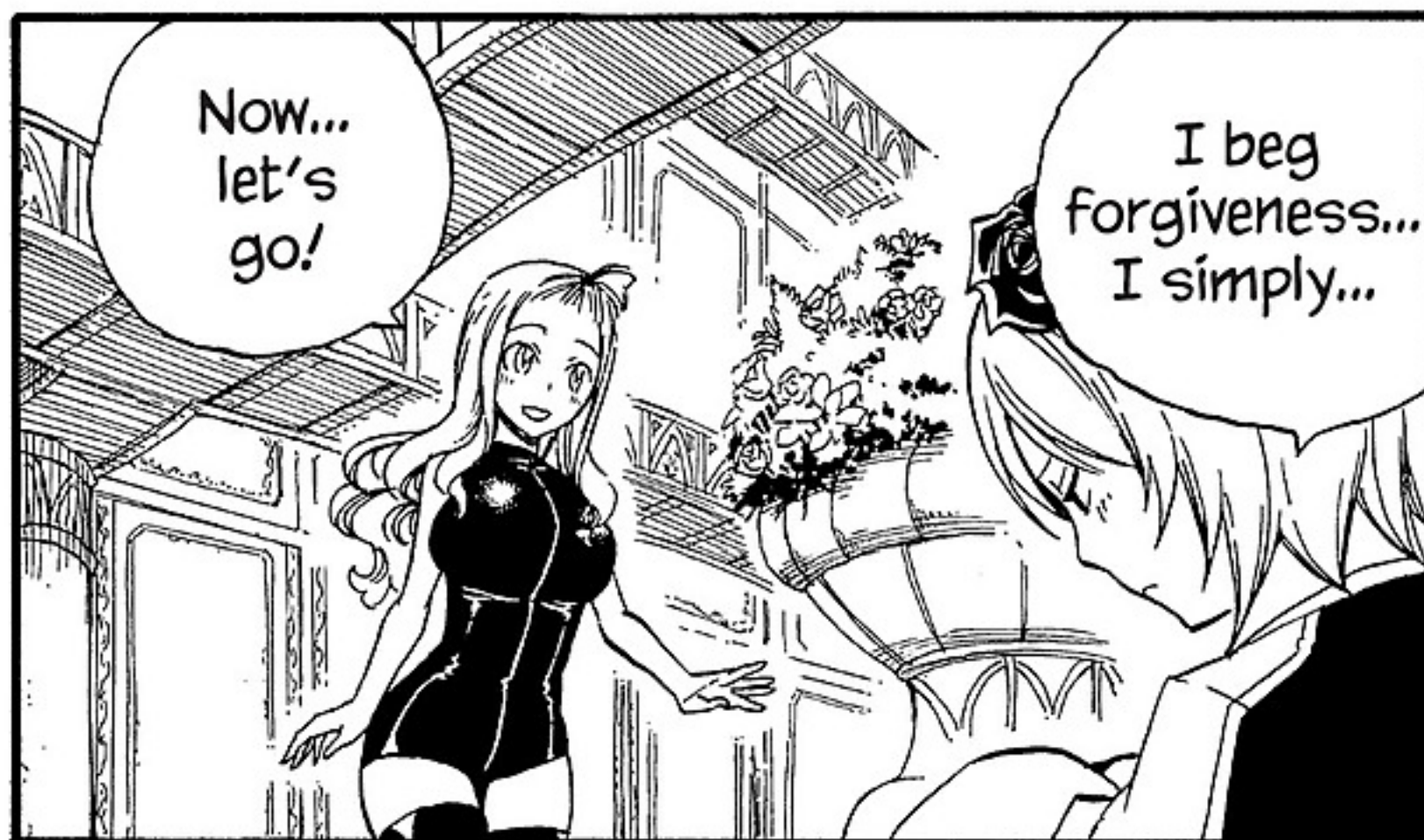
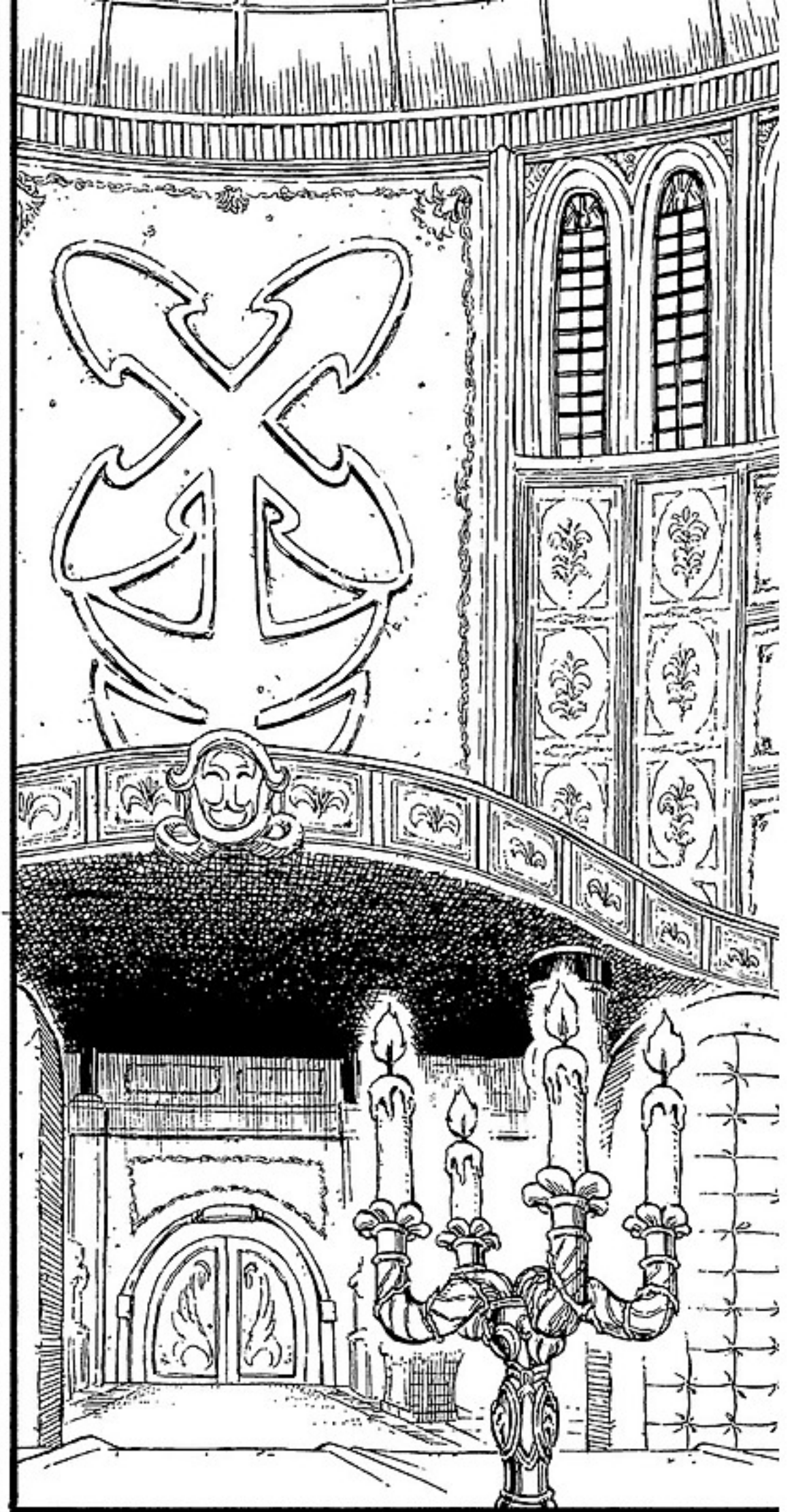
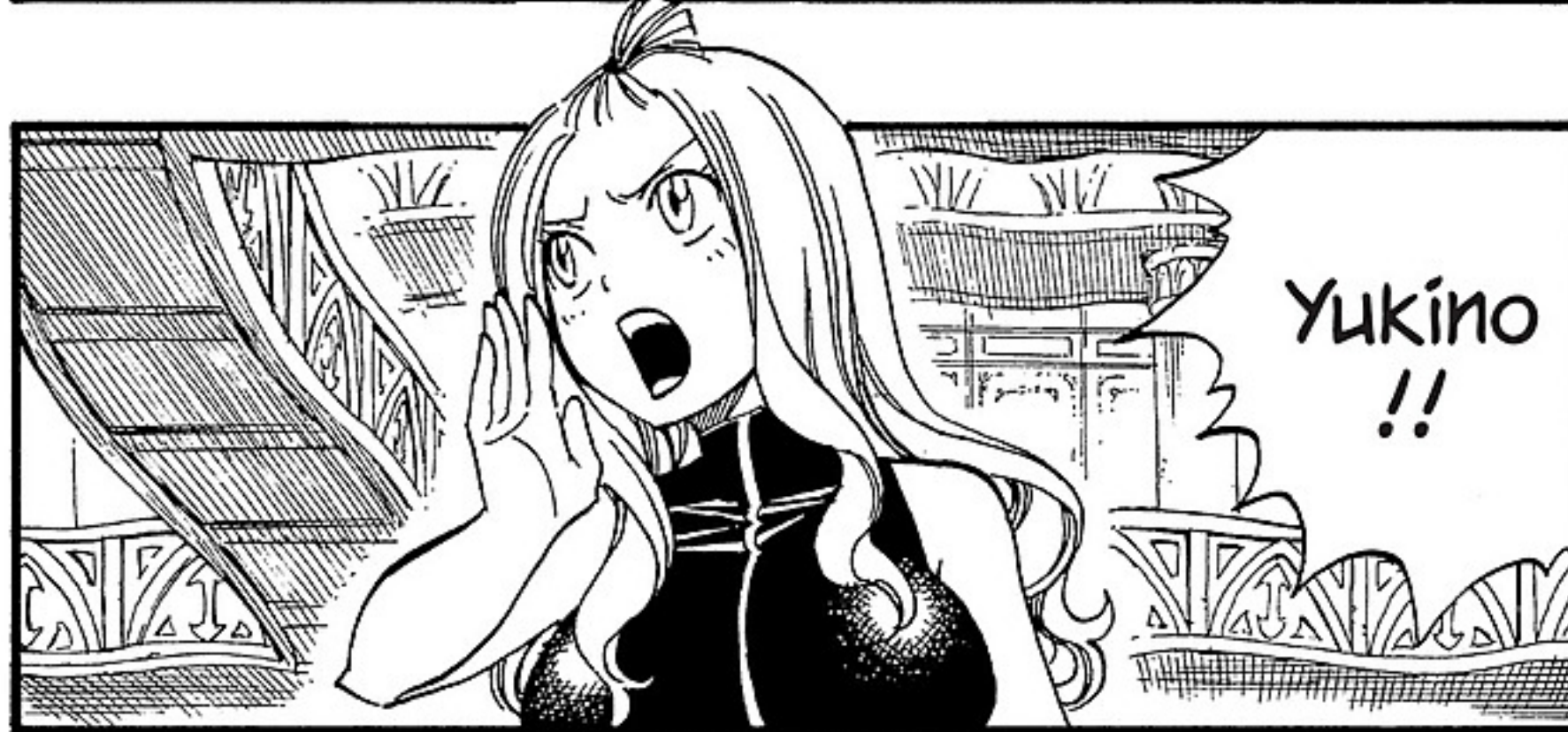


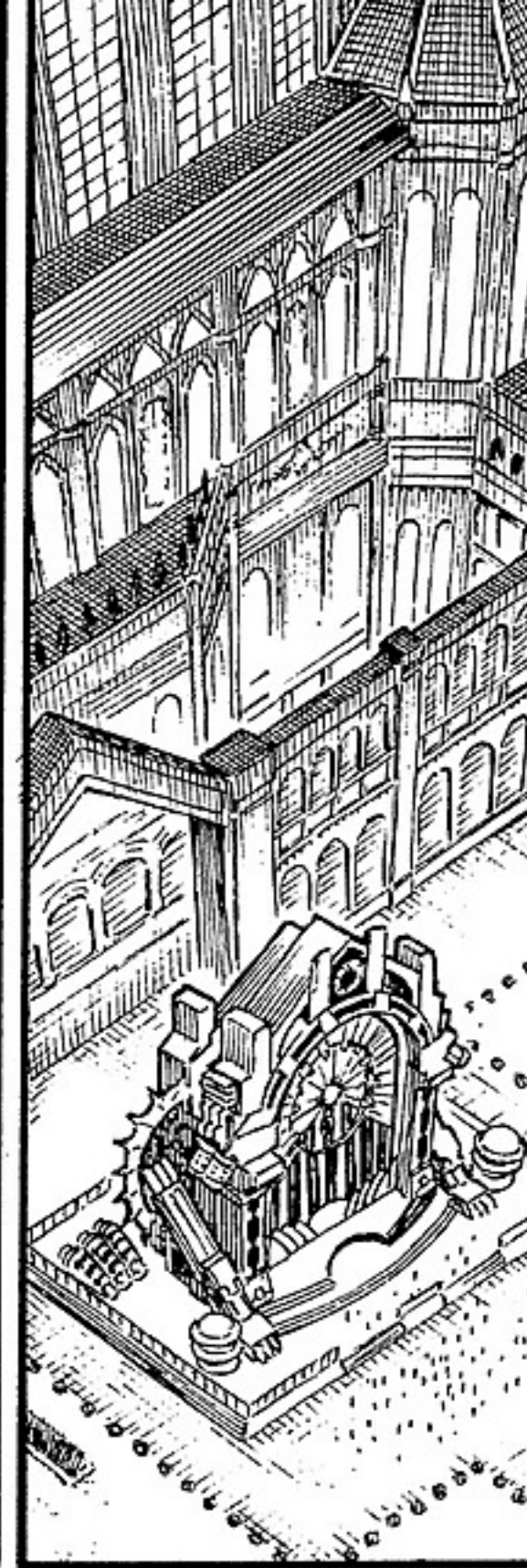
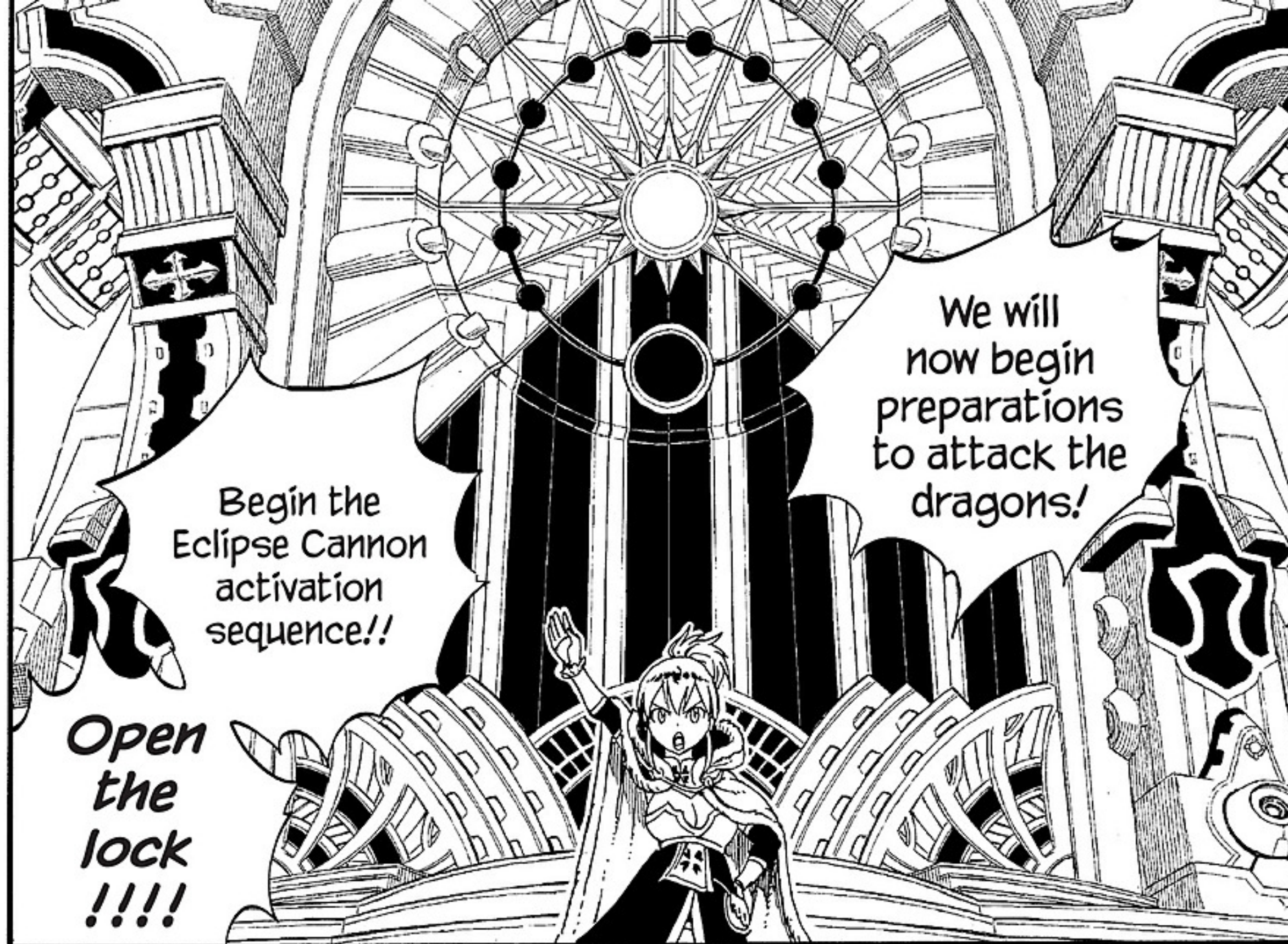
It's all
right.



Everyone
has a reason
they are
alive.

It doesn't
matter how small
that reason is.
And you have a
reason, too. I
know it.







Huh? Loke isn't here anymore!

It looks like they're about to open it!

This is where we happen to come out?!

That's because nobody can use their magic near the door.



I'm afraid it would take on the order of years to recharge its magic.

I pray that we can wipe them all out with our first shot.



"And the Eclipse Cannon never fired at the ten thousand dragons."

"That person set the world on the path to destruction."



"There was one who stood in the way of the door opening."

"That person kept the door from opening."



Fairy Tail?

The situation has changed.

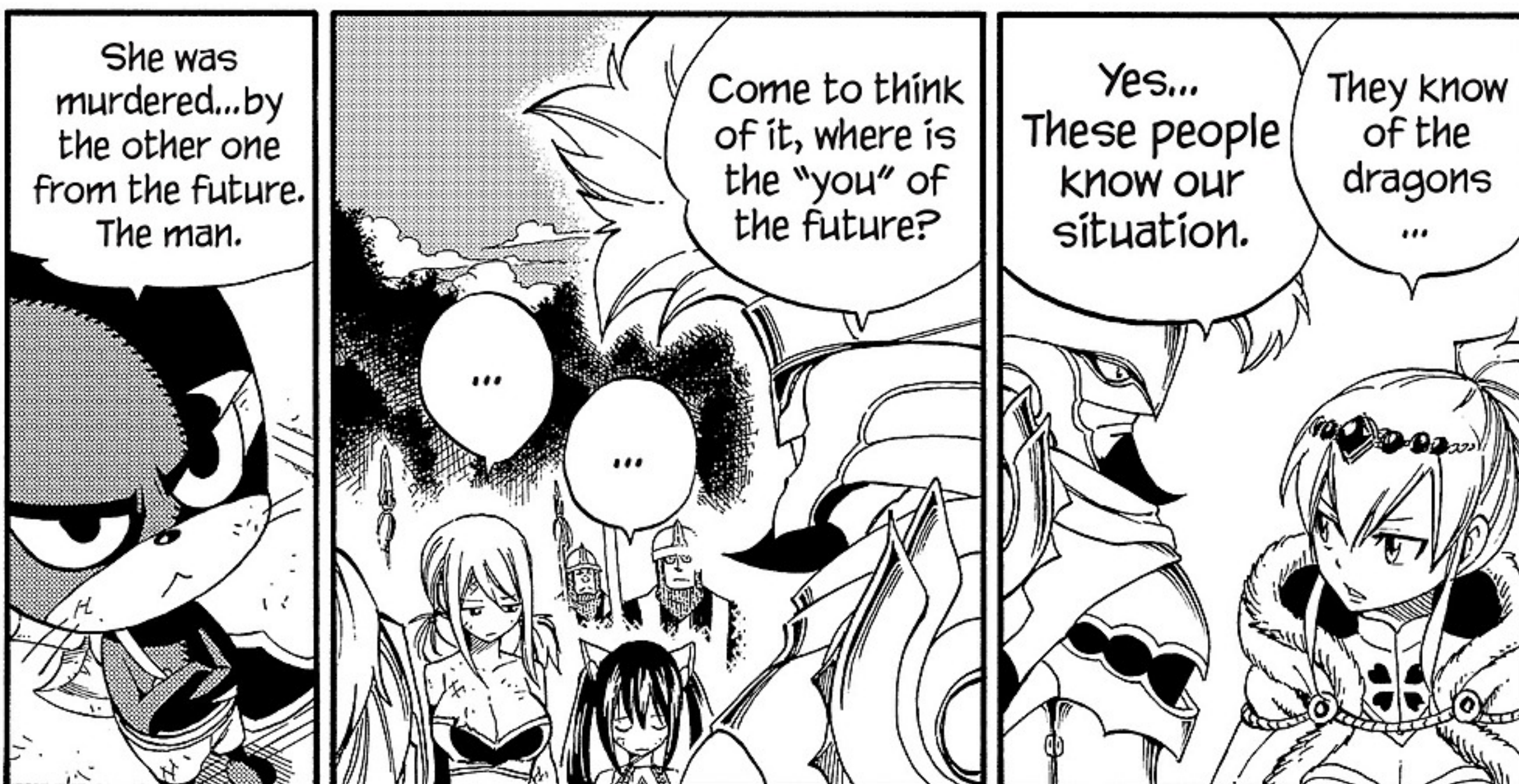
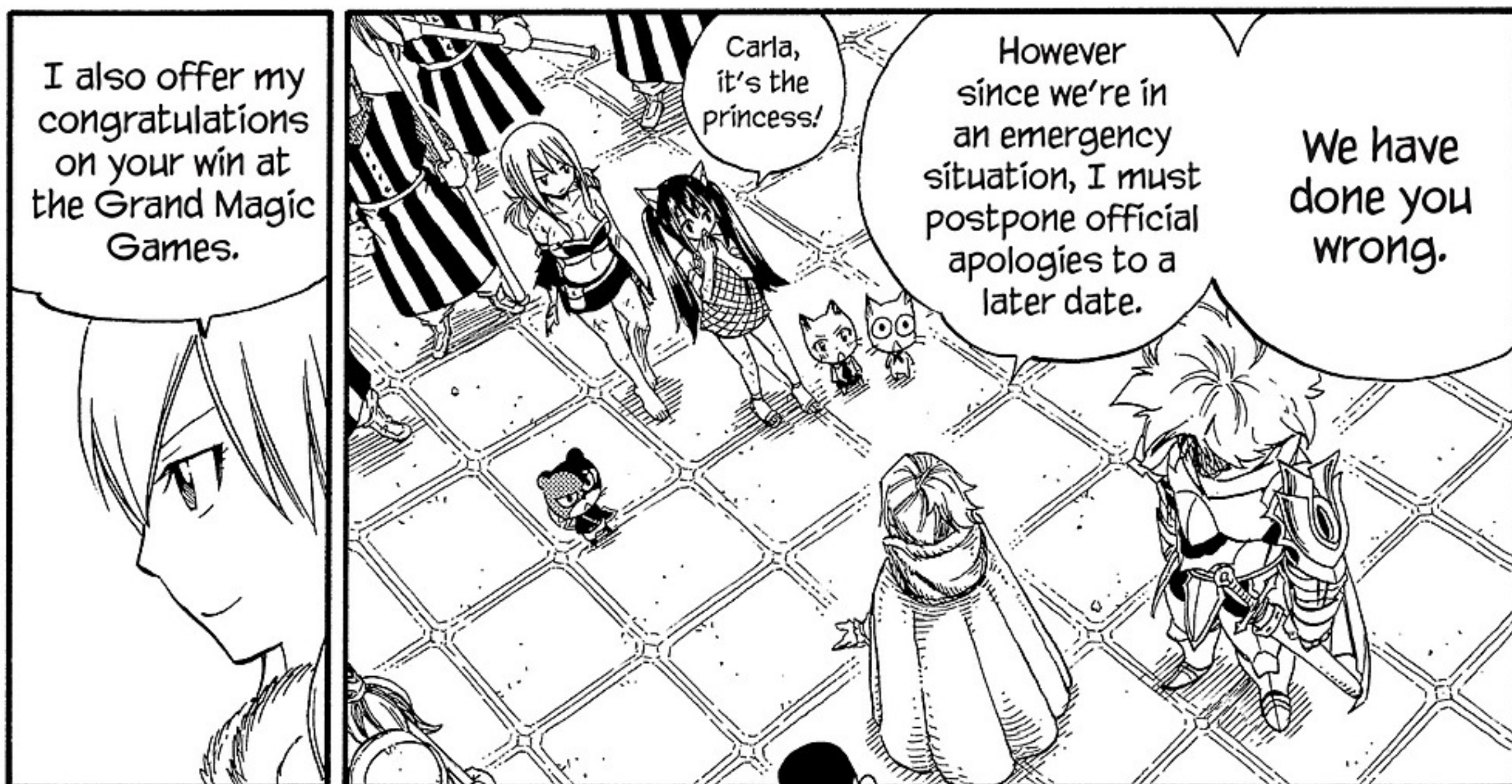


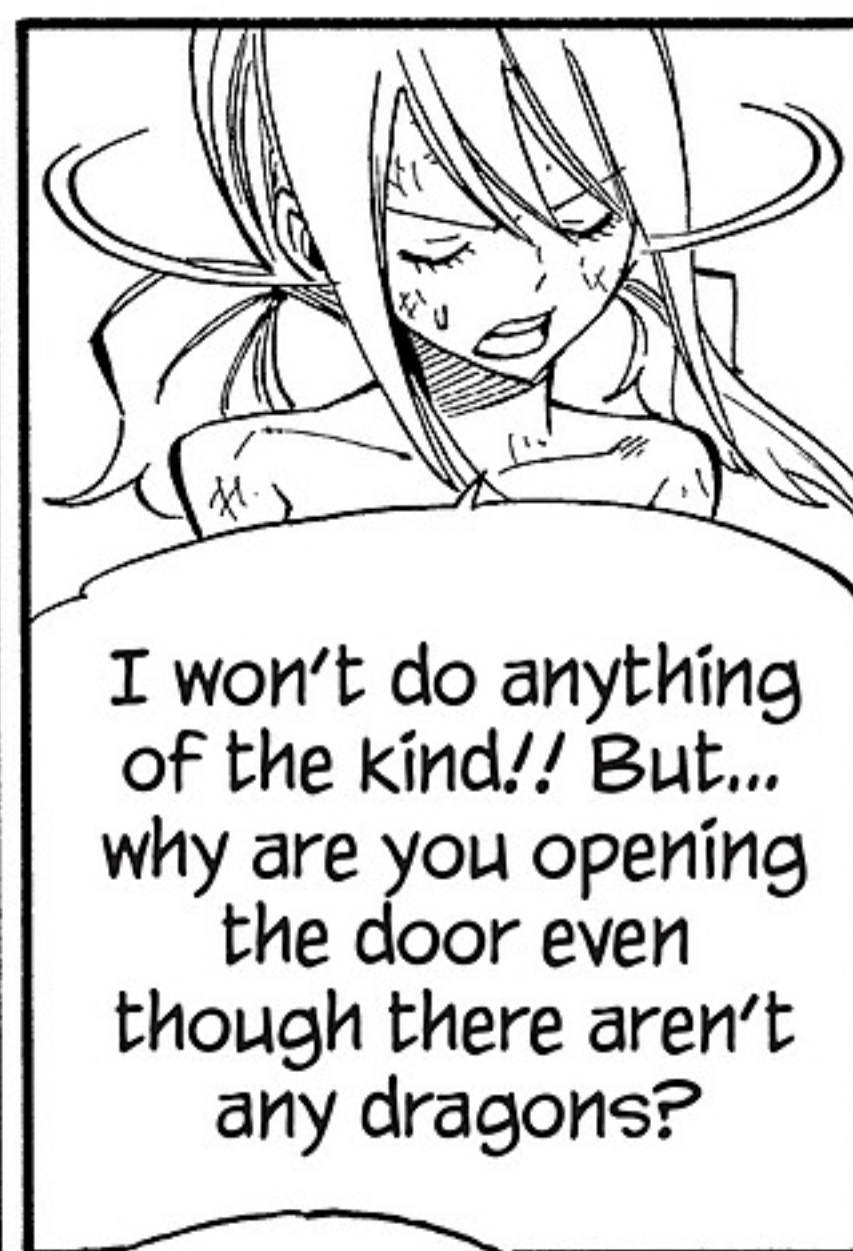
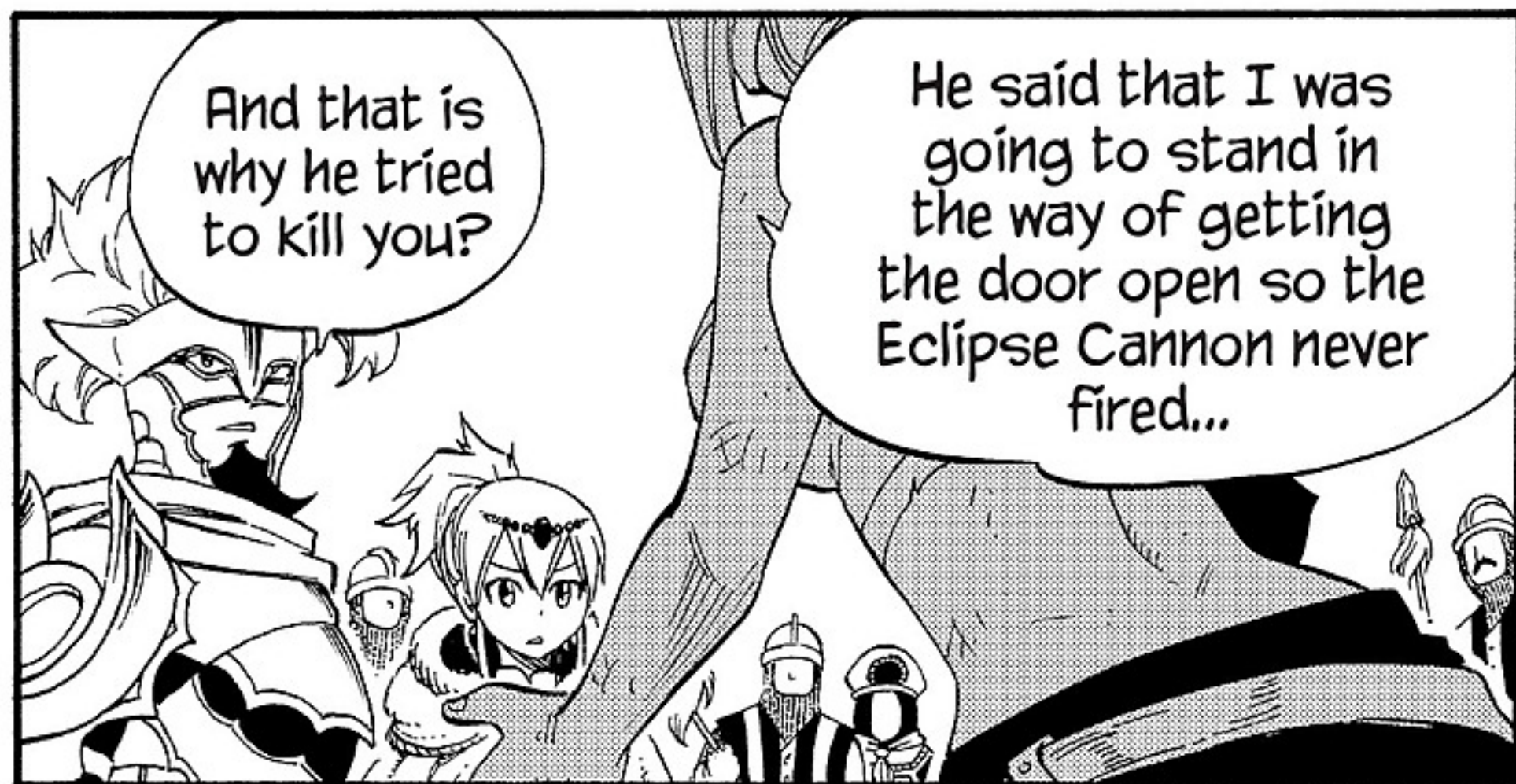
You and the minister together ...?

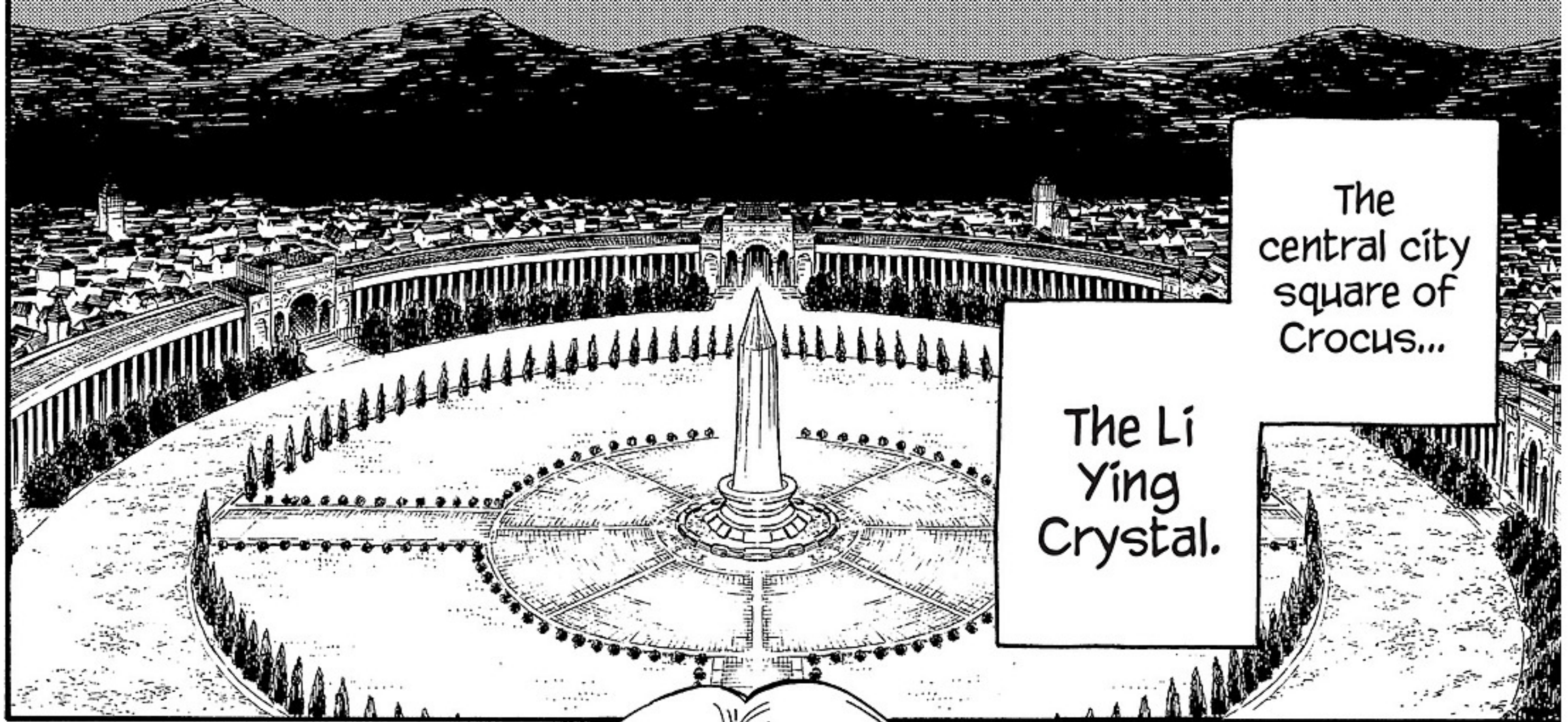
We never did anything wrong!!



There is no need to hide. Come out.

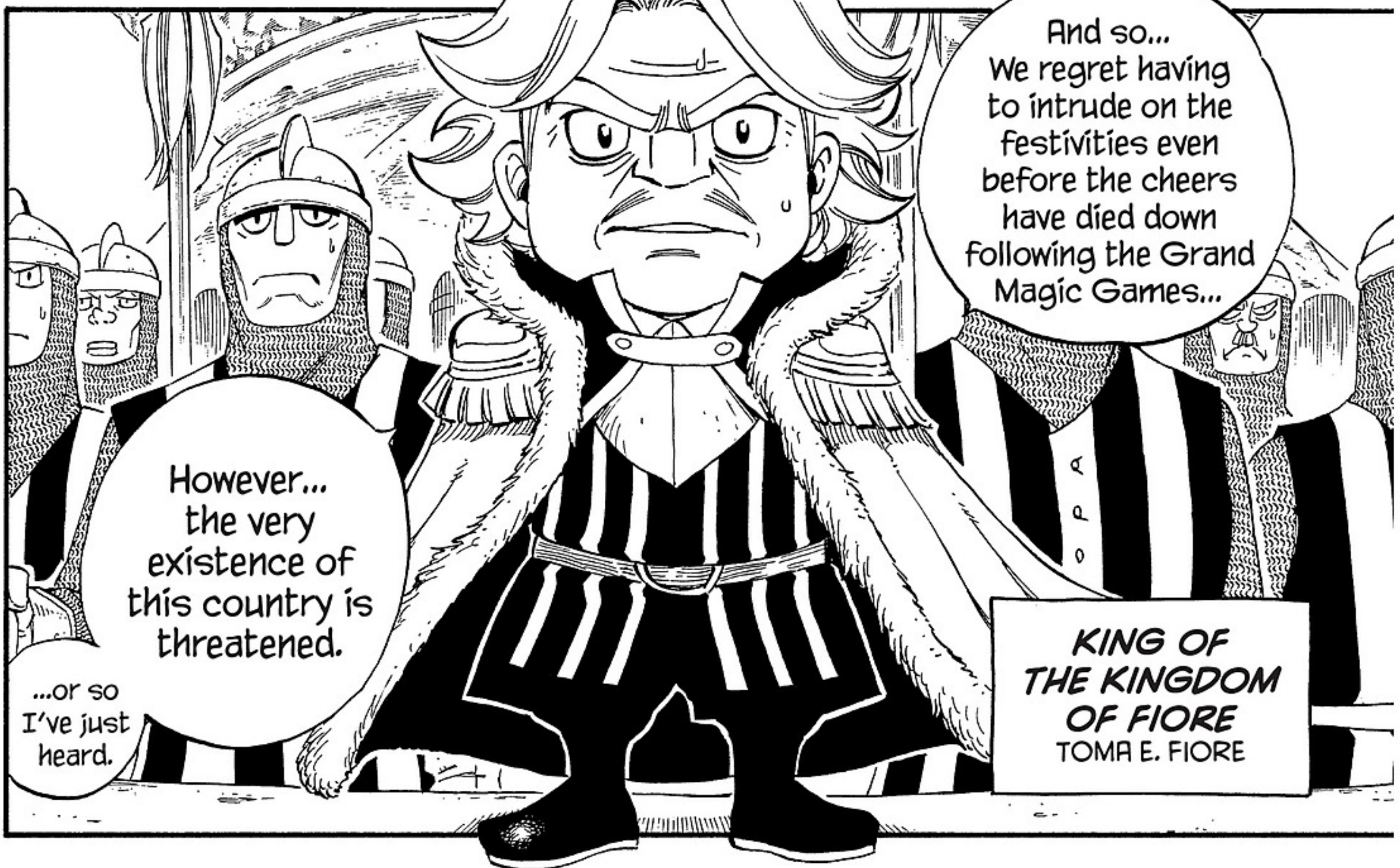






The
central city
square of
Crocus...

The Li
Ying
Crystal.



However...
the very
existence of
this country is
threatened.

...or so
I've just
heard.

And so...
We regret having
to intrude on the
festivities even
before the cheers
have died down
following the Grand
Magic Games...

**KING OF
THE KINGDOM
OF FIORE**
TOMA E. FIORE



We're
against ten
thousand...

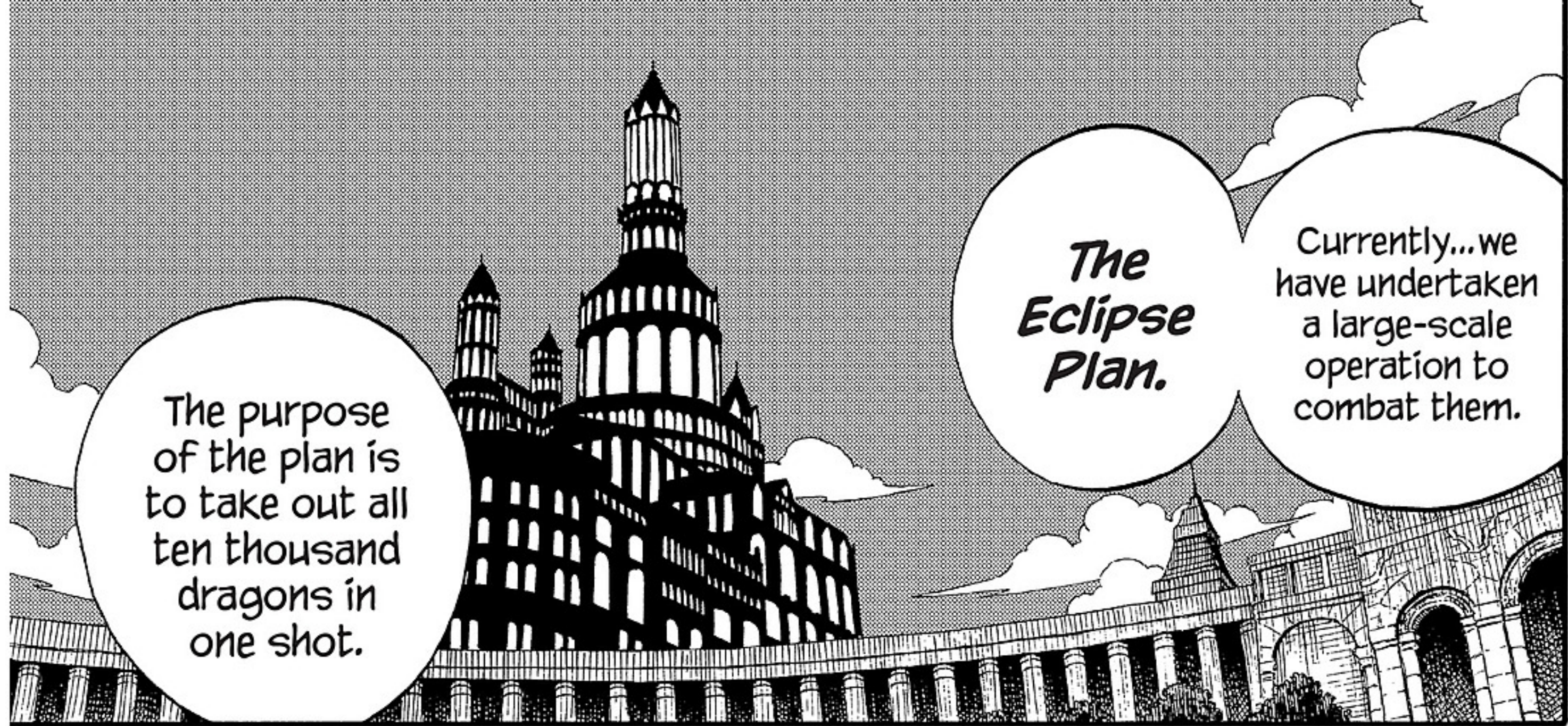
Even if it was
a special
case...

We couldn't
even face
one dragon,
Acnologia, and
now...



CHATTER
CHATTER

Ten
thousand
dragons?!



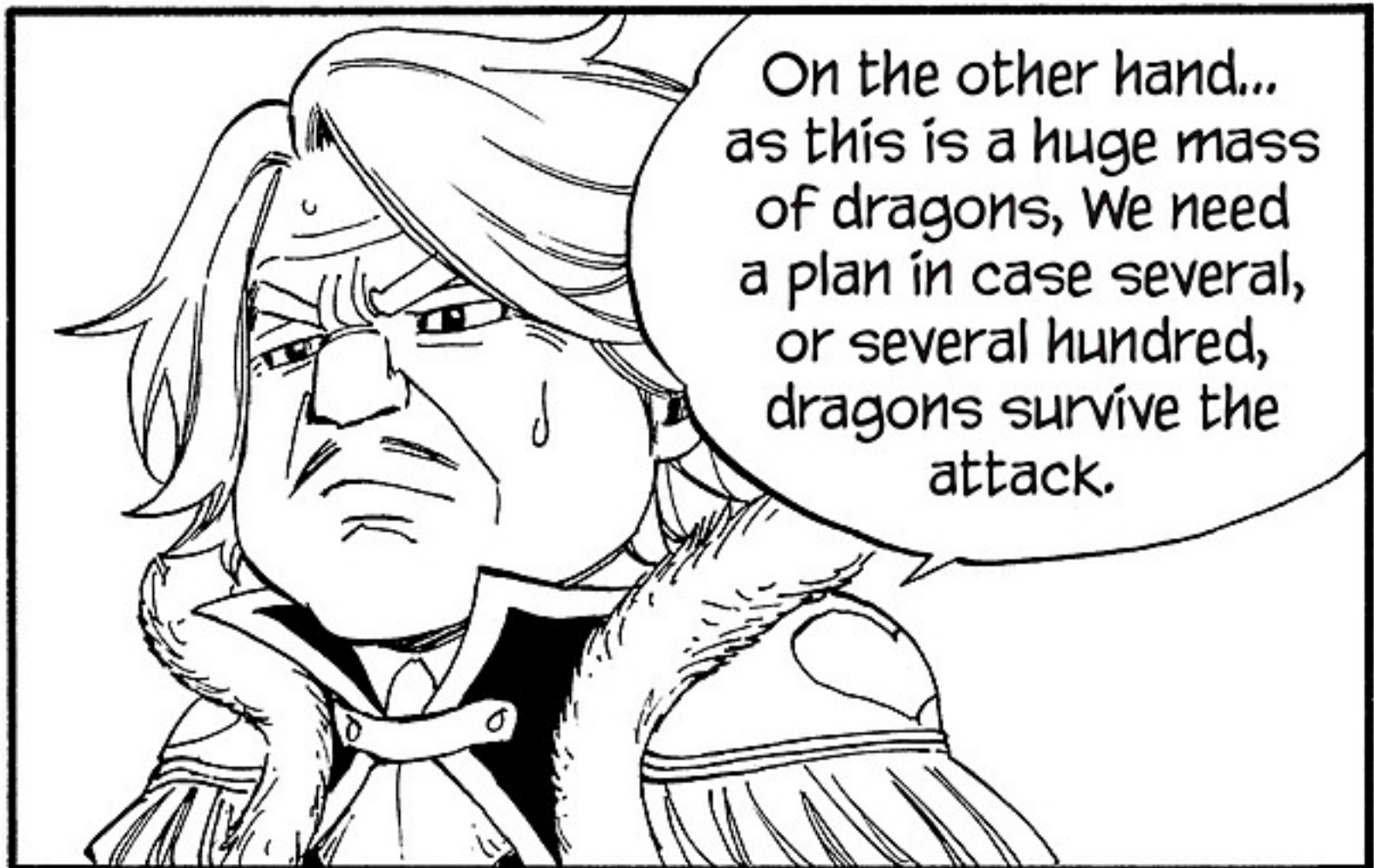
The purpose of the plan is to take out all ten thousand dragons in one shot.

The Eclipse Plan.

Currently...we have undertaken a large-scale operation to combat them.



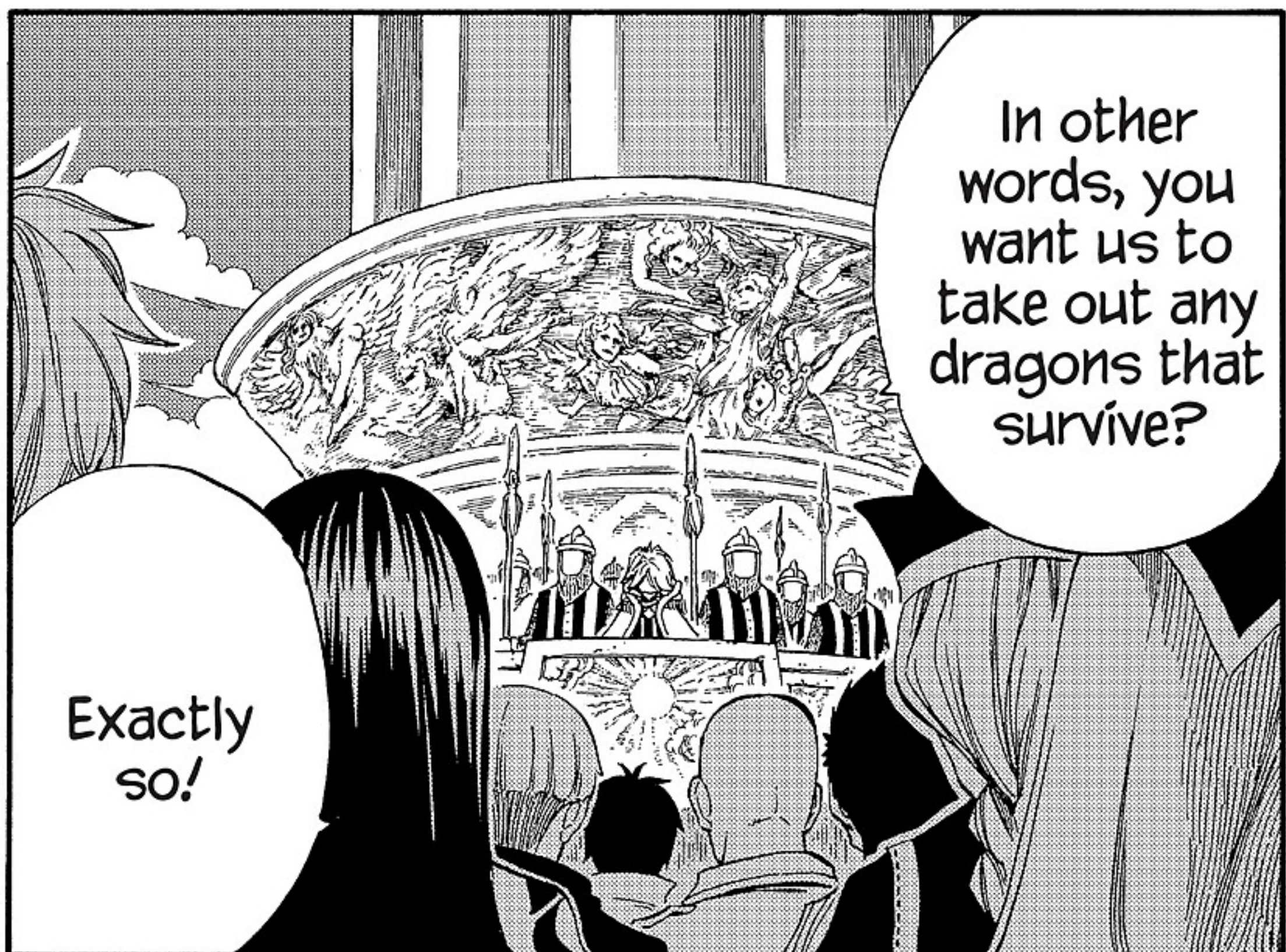
We ask all of you who belong to wizard guilds...to please aid us in our time of need.



On the other hand... as this is a huge mass of dragons, We need a plan in case several, or several hundred, dragons survive the attack.



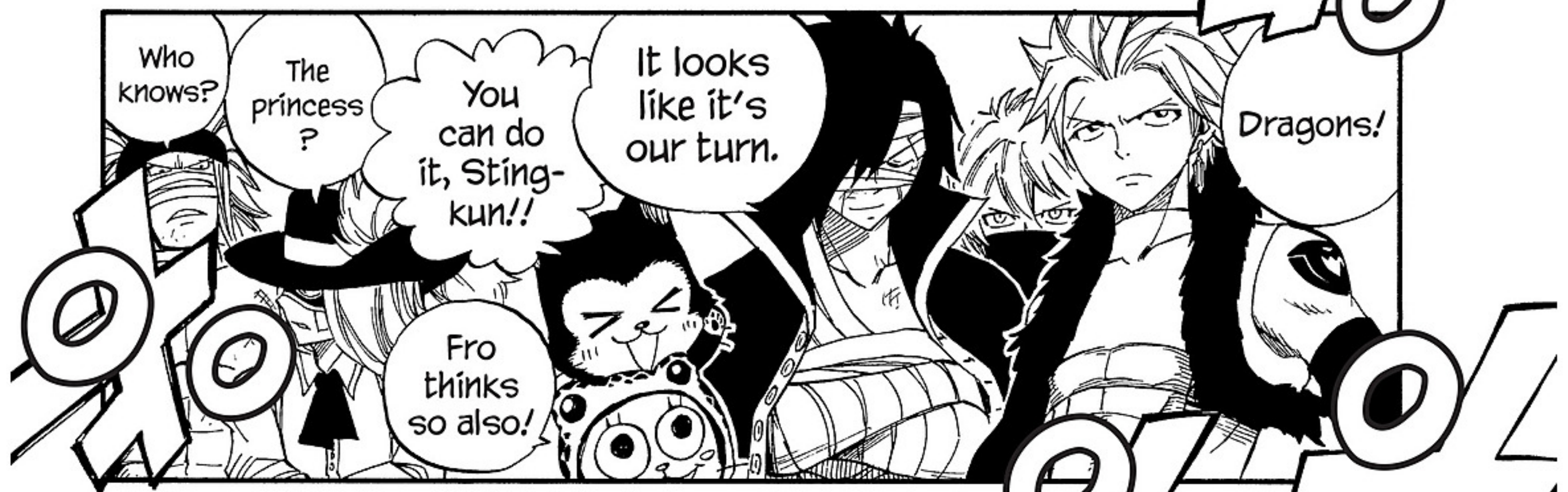
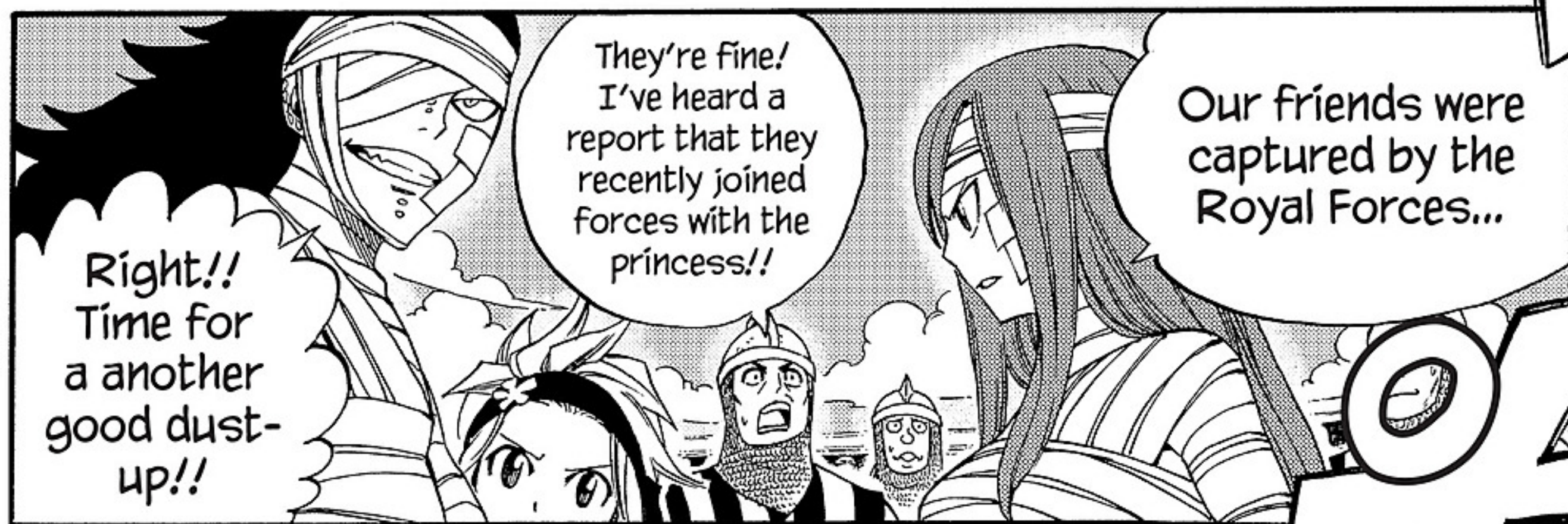
I ask you to save our country!

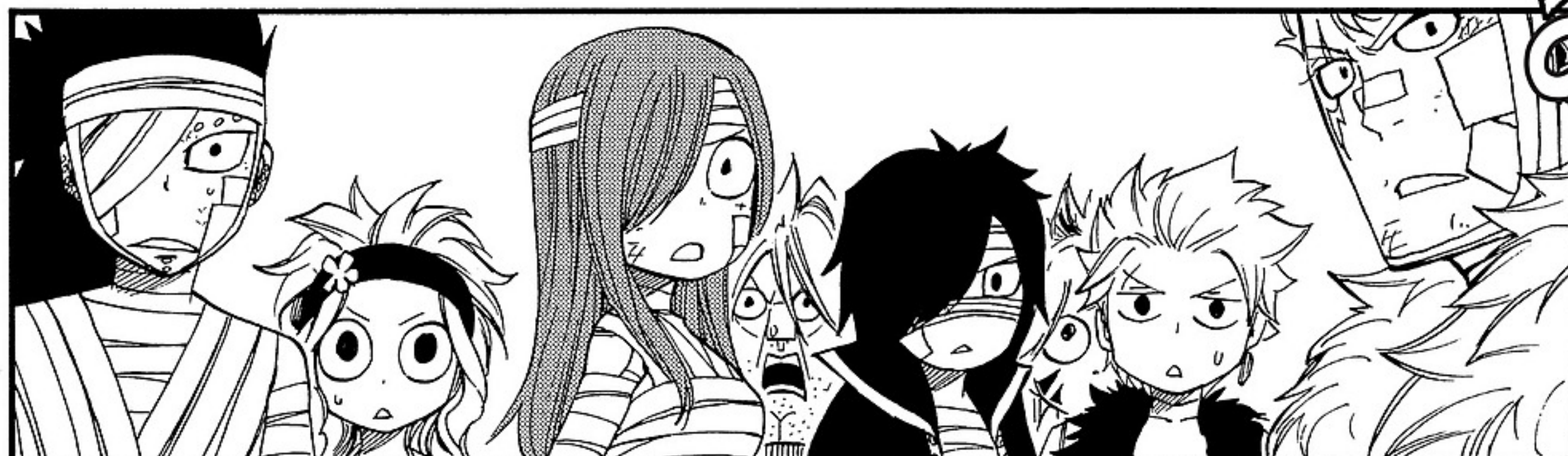
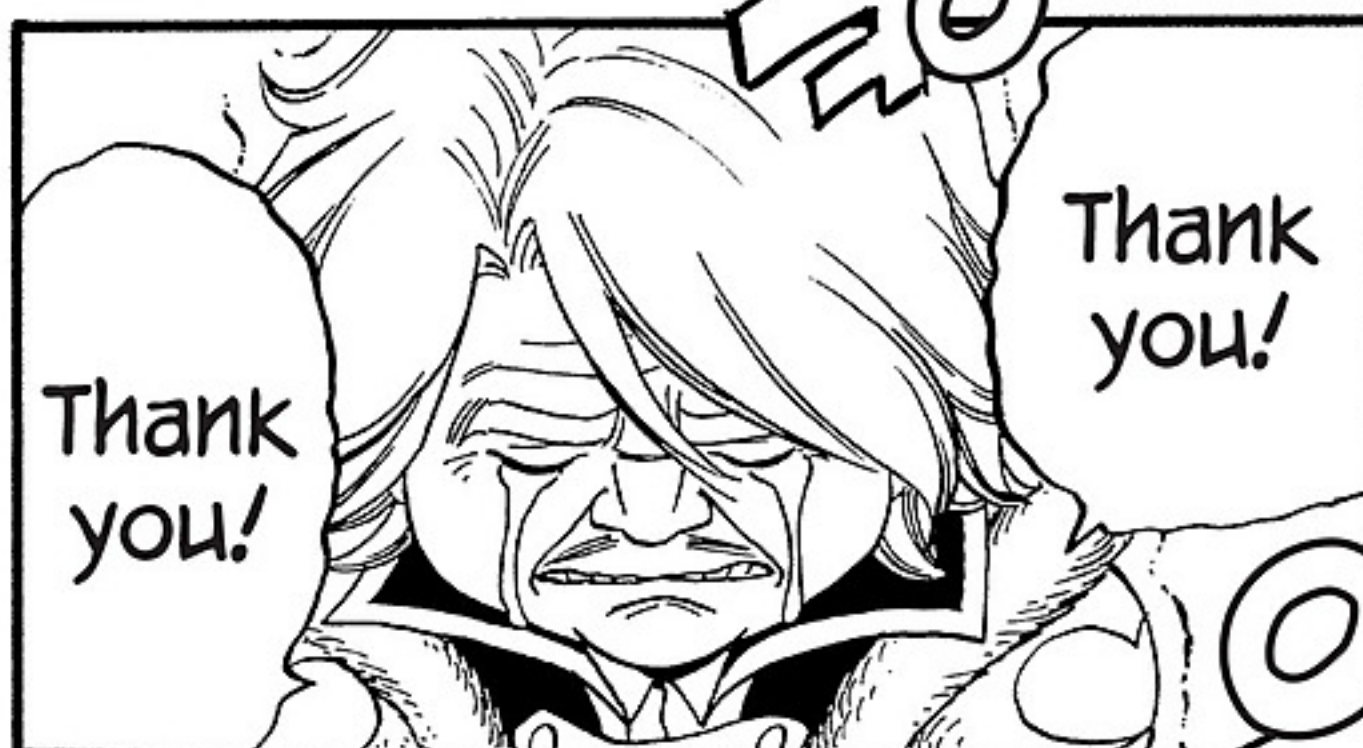


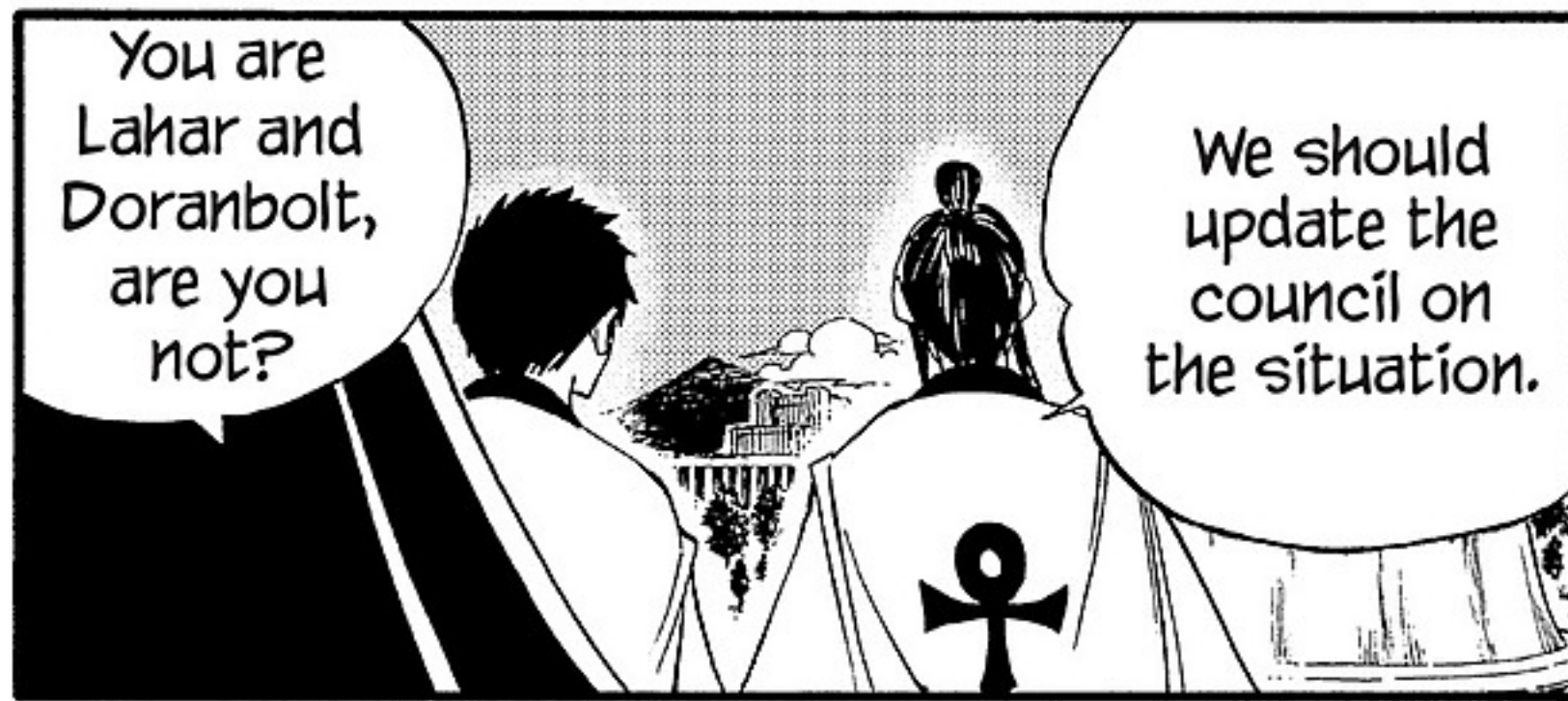
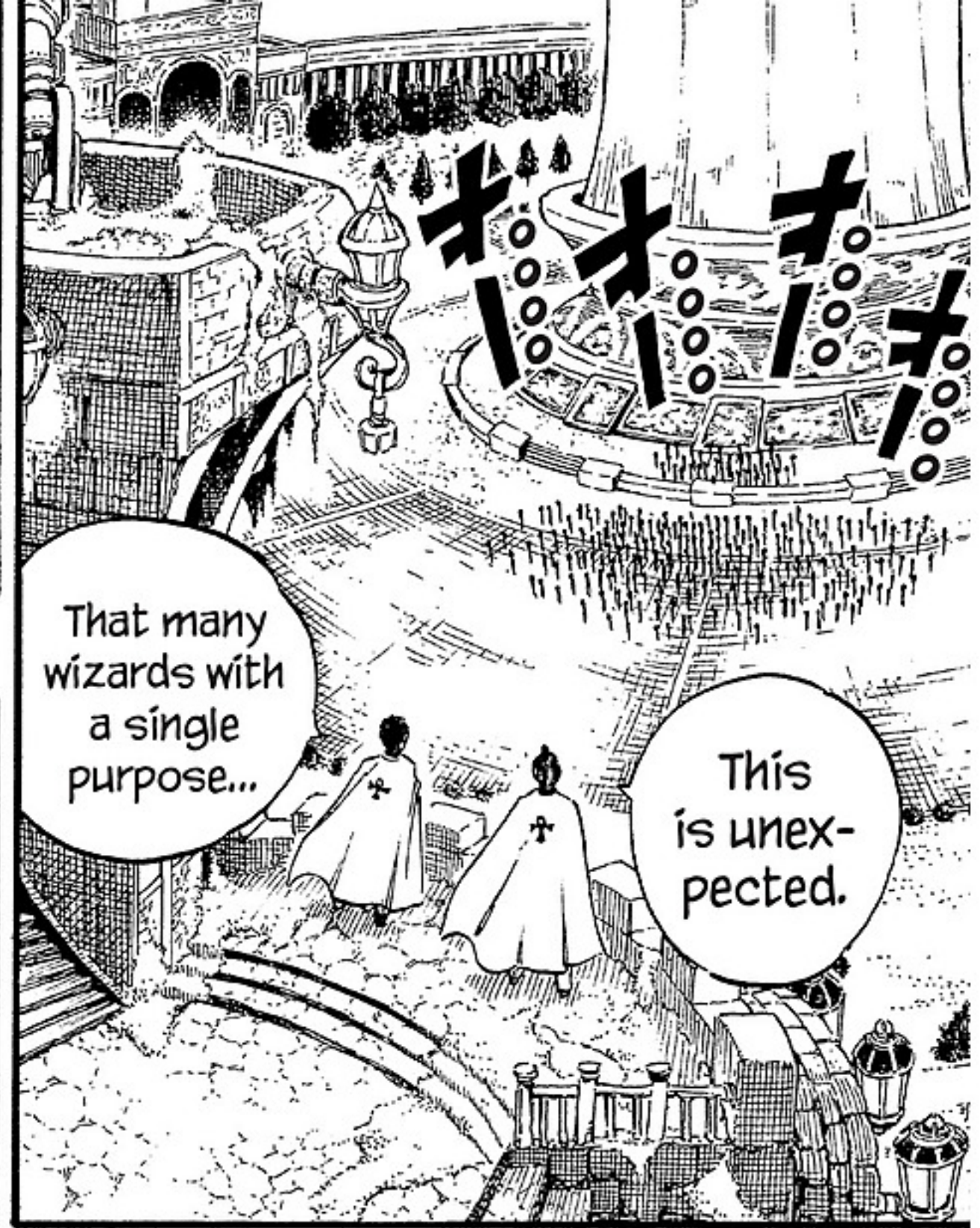
Exactly so!

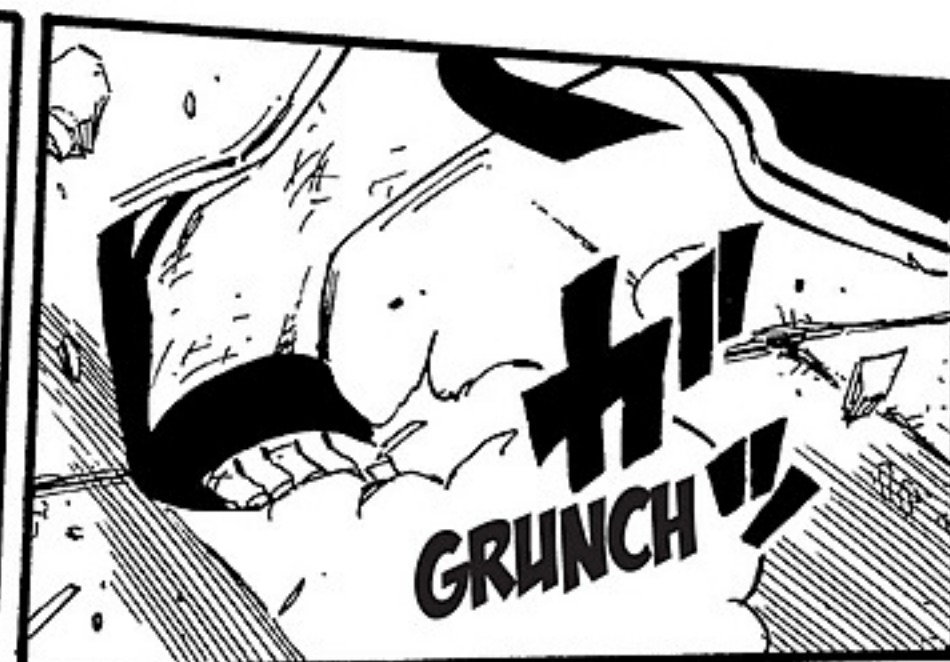
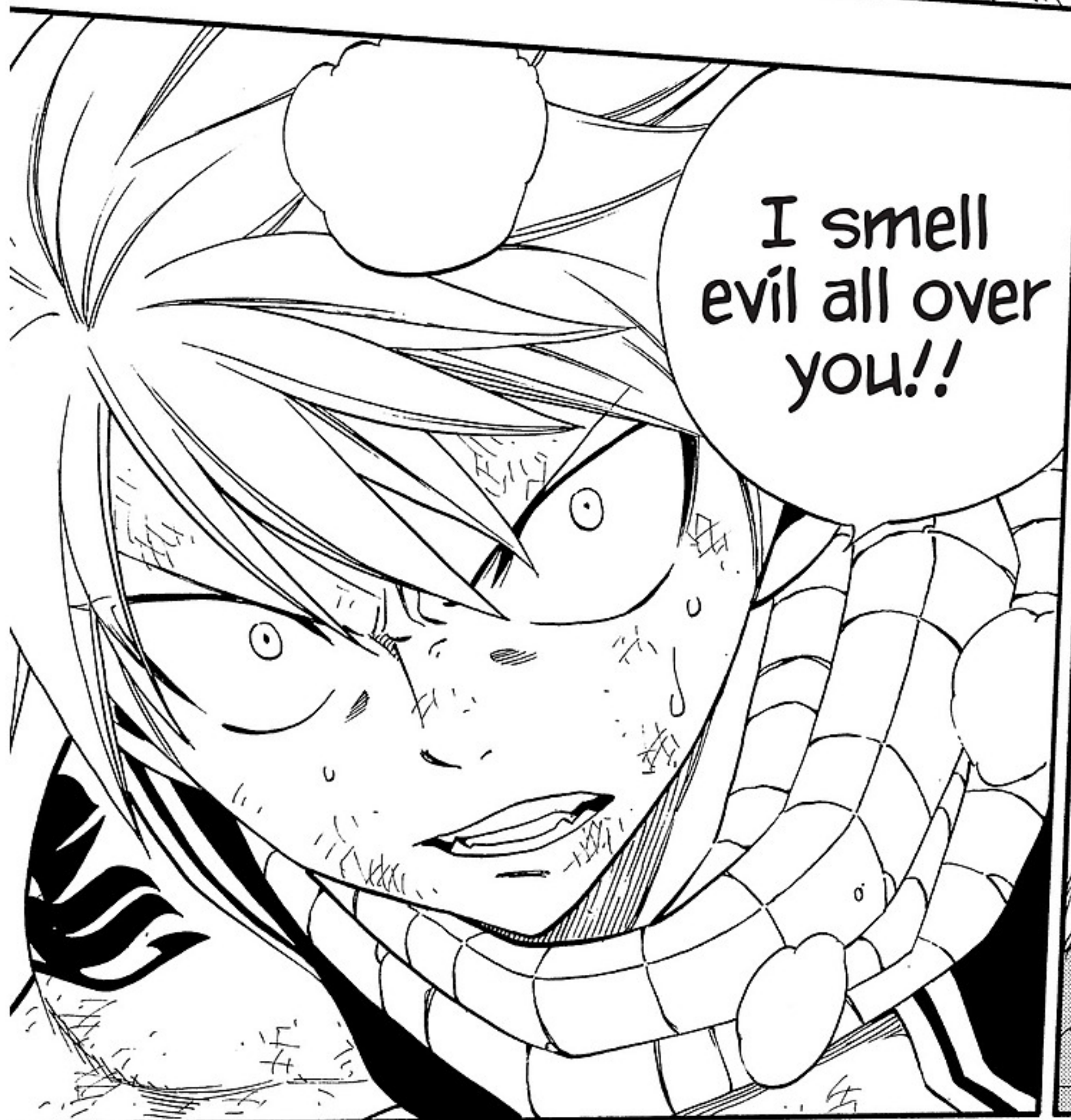
In other words, you want us to take out any dragons that survive?

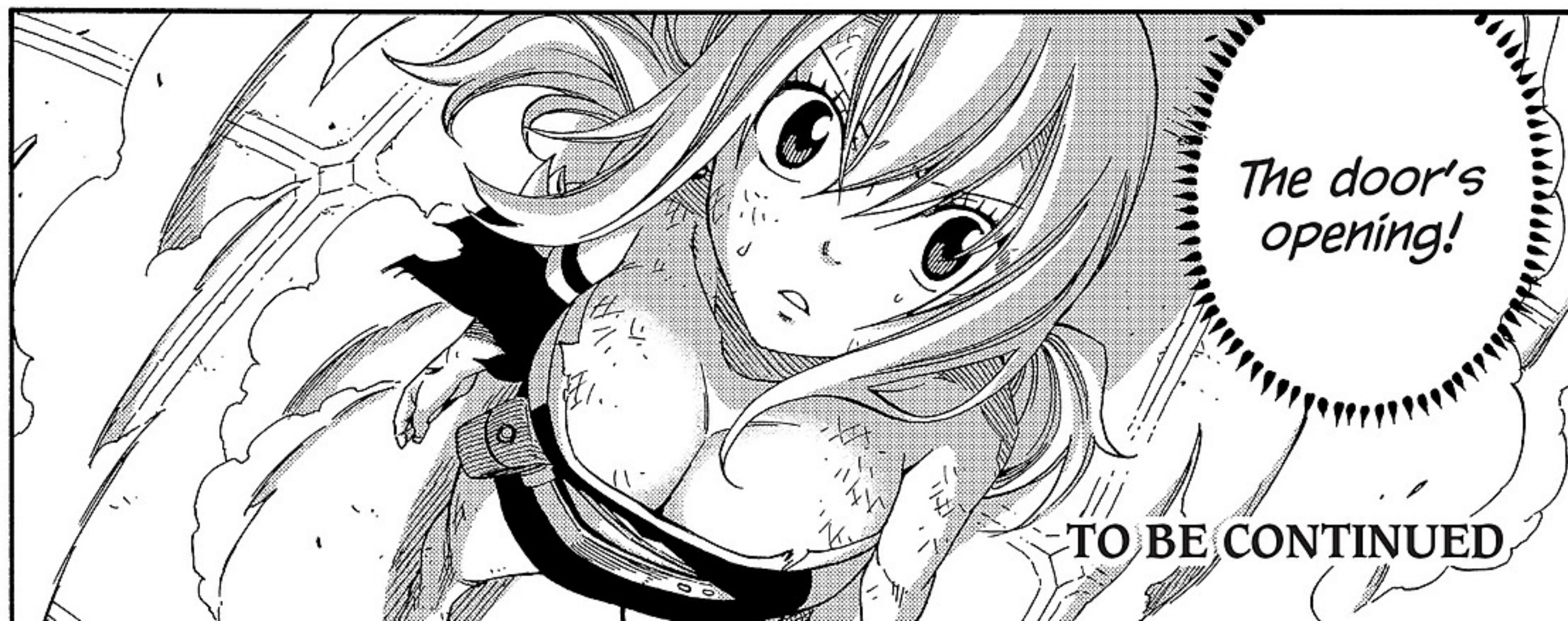
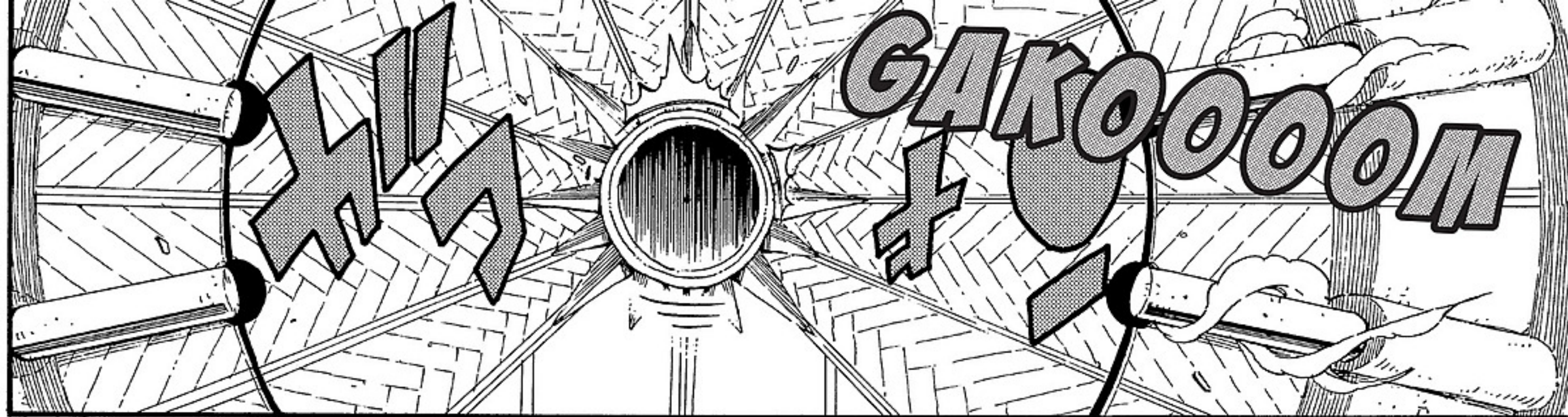












後書き

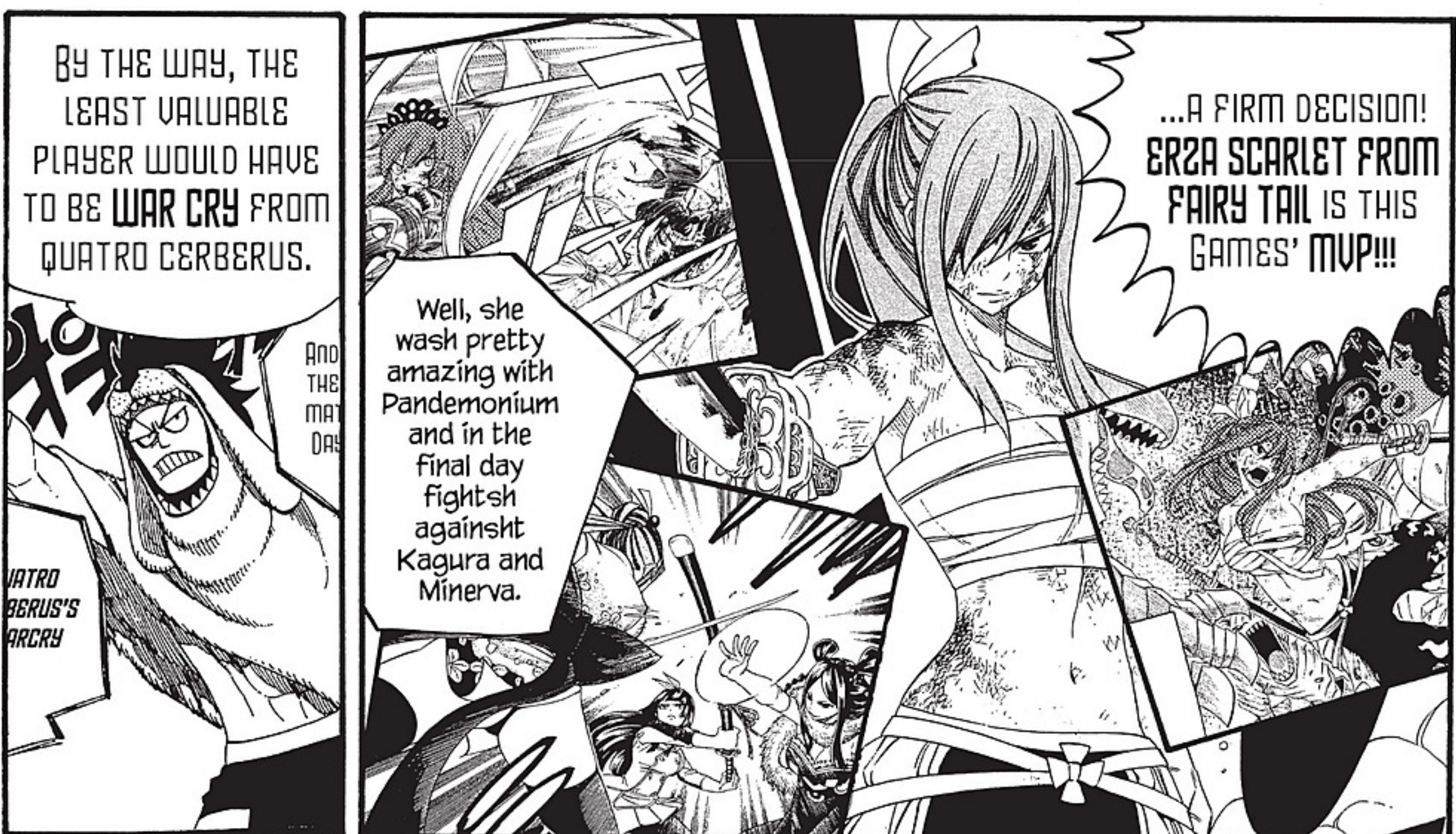
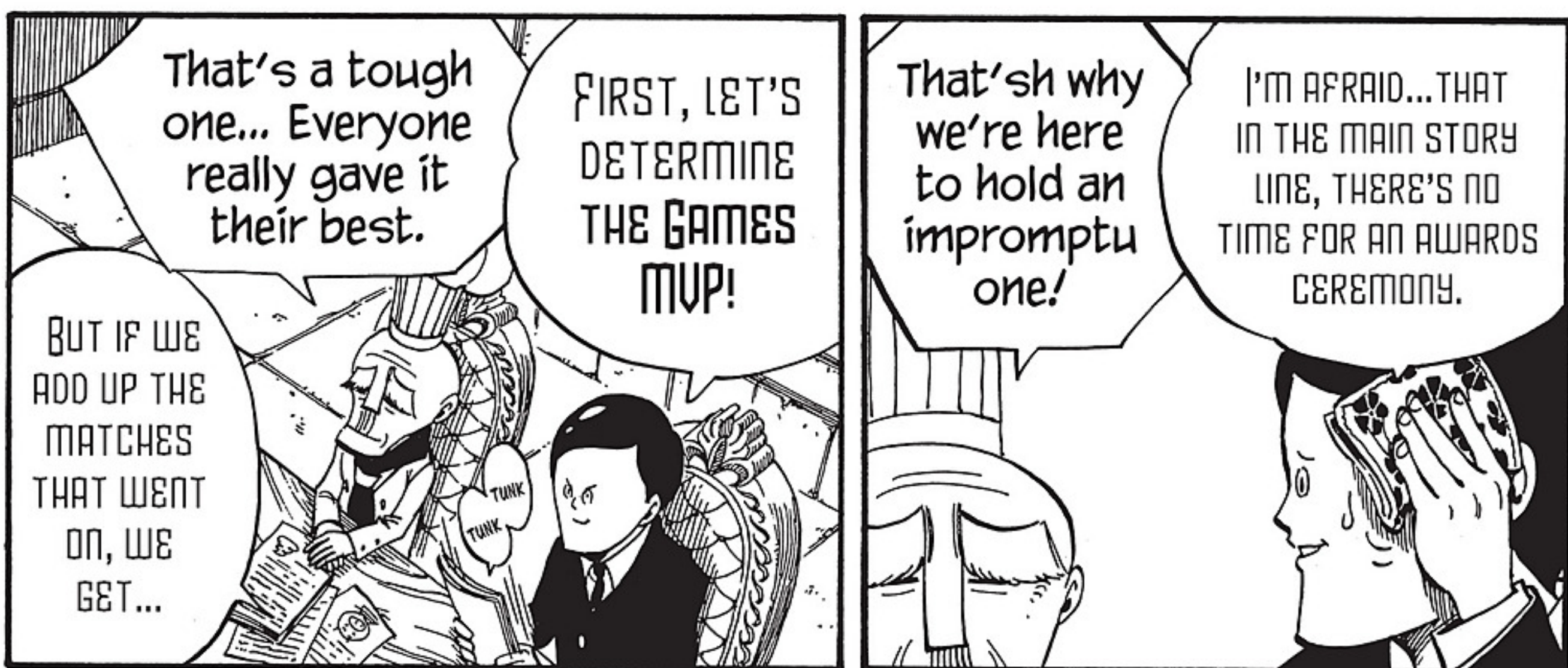
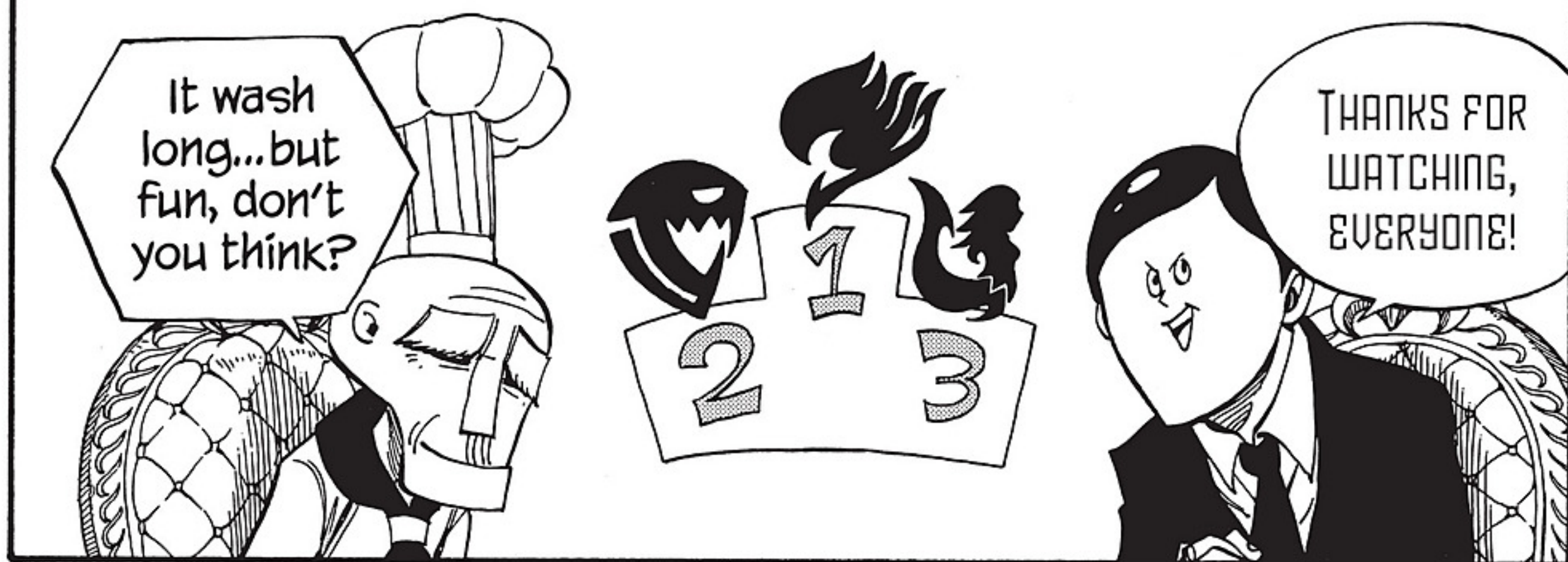
Afterword

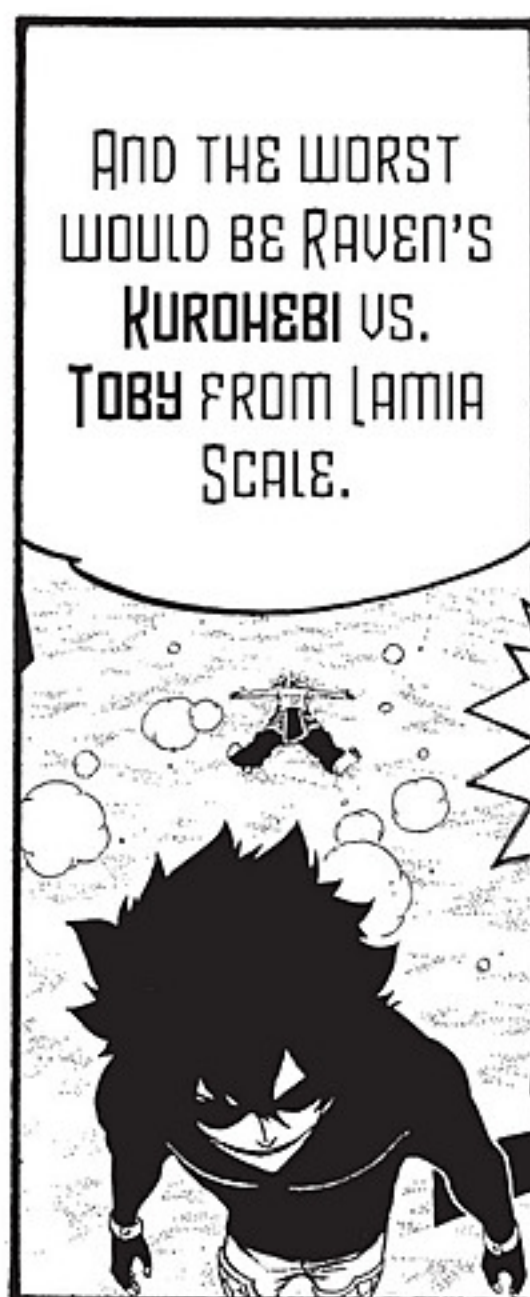
Ever since I was a kid, I loved manga with battles! I'd try to imagine if this character fought that one, which one would win (so exciting!), and it's probably because I spent my youth steeped in those fantasies that I wound up drawing battle manga myself. But there are plenty of other manga doing tournaments and competition stories, huh? And then they'd have great plot twists! Yeah, battle manga is the ultimate path for manga!

But I'm a little twisted myself, so even if I'm doing a tournament, I try to make sure that battles aren't all there is to it. Sure, I thought of plot lines that are just about the battles... But if I just did that, then the chances for the main character, Natsu, to show his stuff get drastically reduced. So I do battle, break, battle, and behind it all, I have another story going on (the Eclipse plan), until it becomes a really complicated plot. In fact, it was so complicated, there were a lot of places where my original ideas started to be inconsistent with how they actually went. So much so that as things went on, there were so many adjustments and rewrites to keep things on track in this story arc that it was wearing me out! I'll bet you can still find all sorts of contradictions that are still in there (sweat)!

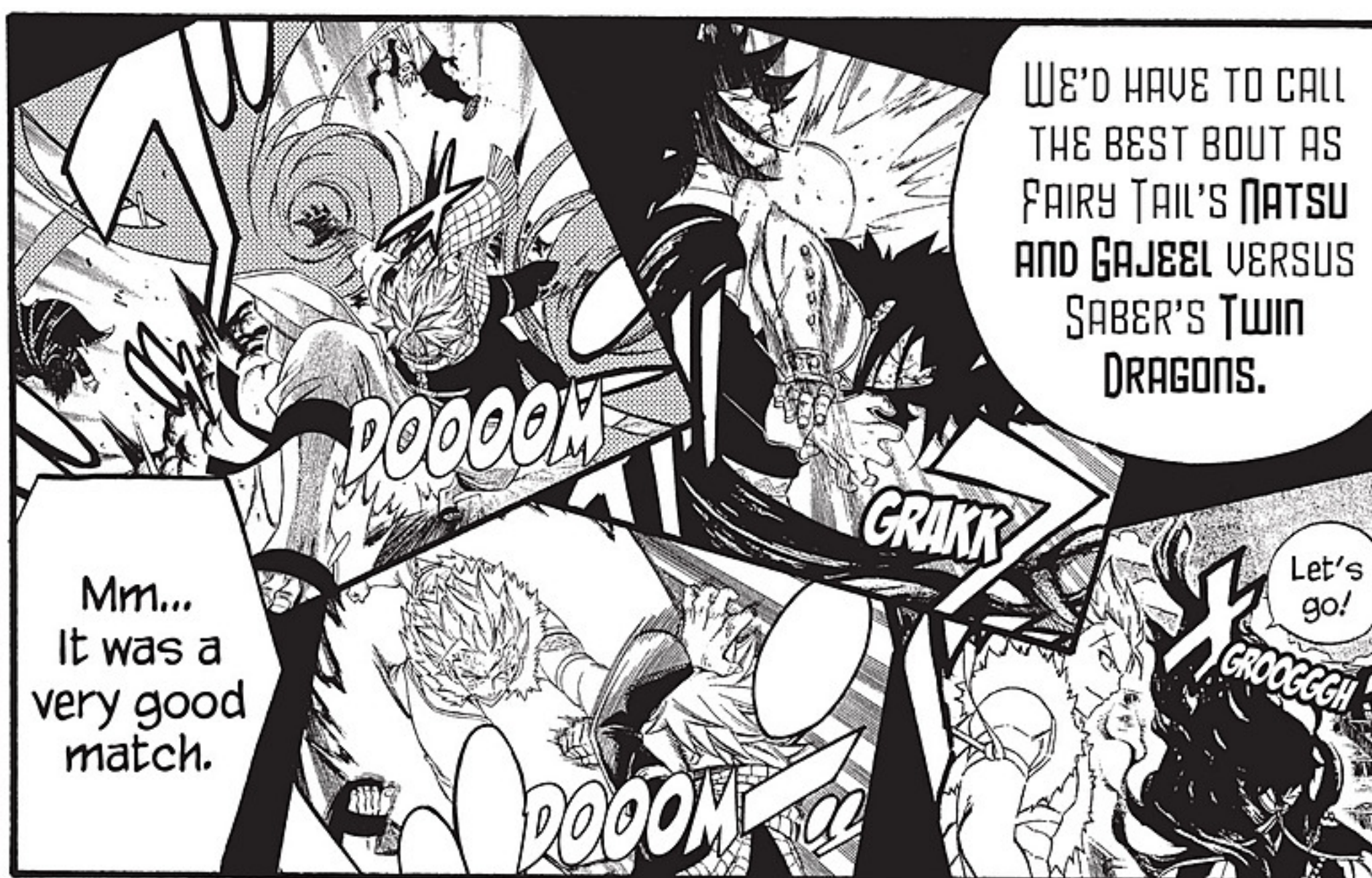
Now, in the Japanese release of Volume 39 there will again be a normal version and a special edition. In the special edition, there will be an anime DVD that includes a collaboration between Fairy Tail and my previous work, Rave. After so long, we get to see moving versions of Haru and Elie!

X791-GRAND-MAGIC-GAMES-IMPROMPTU-AWARDS-CEREMONY





AND THE WORST
WOULD BE RAVEN'S
KUROHEBI VS.
TOBY FROM LAMIA
SCALE.



WE'D HAVE TO CALL
THE BEST BOUT AS
FAIRY TAIL'S NATSU
AND GAJEL VERSUS
SABER'S TWIN
DRAGONS.

Mm...
It was a
very good
match.



OLGA OF SABER
TOOTH HAS BEEN
CHOSEN FOR BEST
PERFORMANCE.

COOLEST
CONTESTANT GOES
TO KAGURA OF
MERMAID HEEL!



MOST TENACIOUS
GOES TO LUCY OF
FAIRY TAIL!

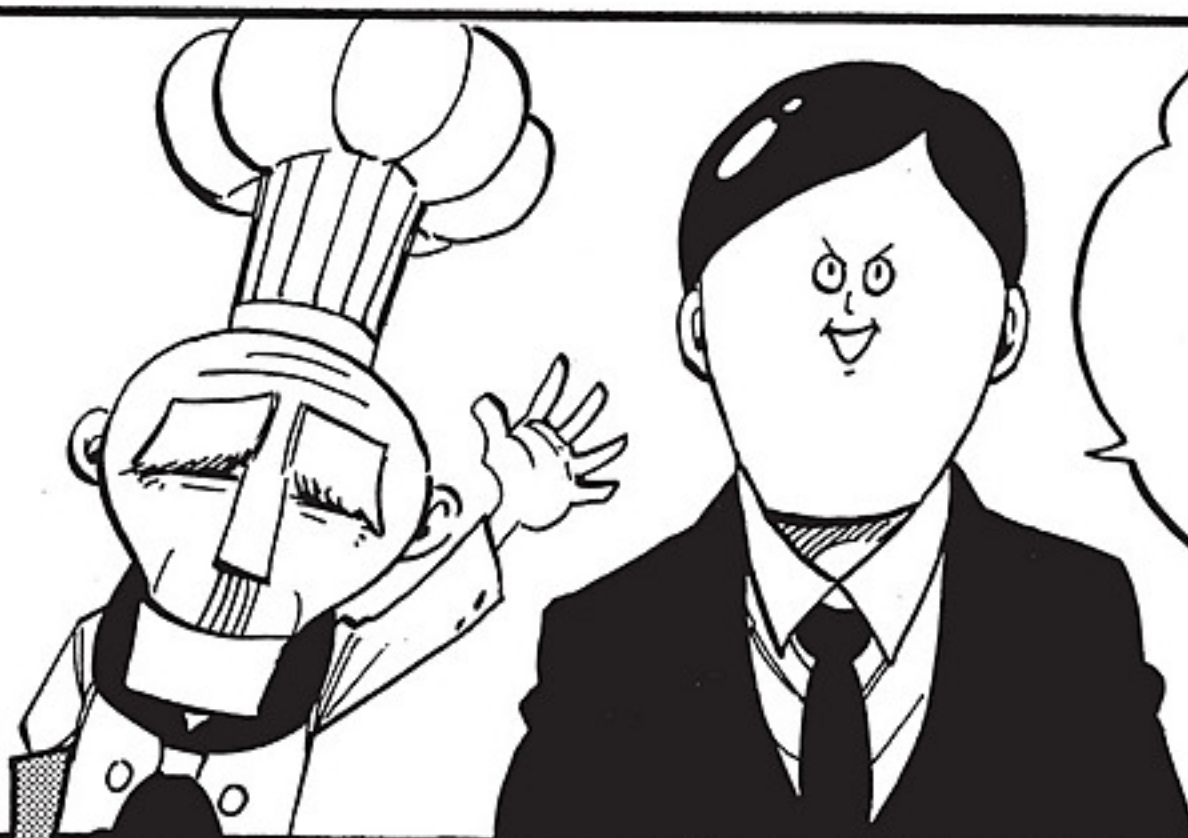


THE SEXIEST
CONTESTANT GOES
TO JENNY OF BLUE
PEGASUS.

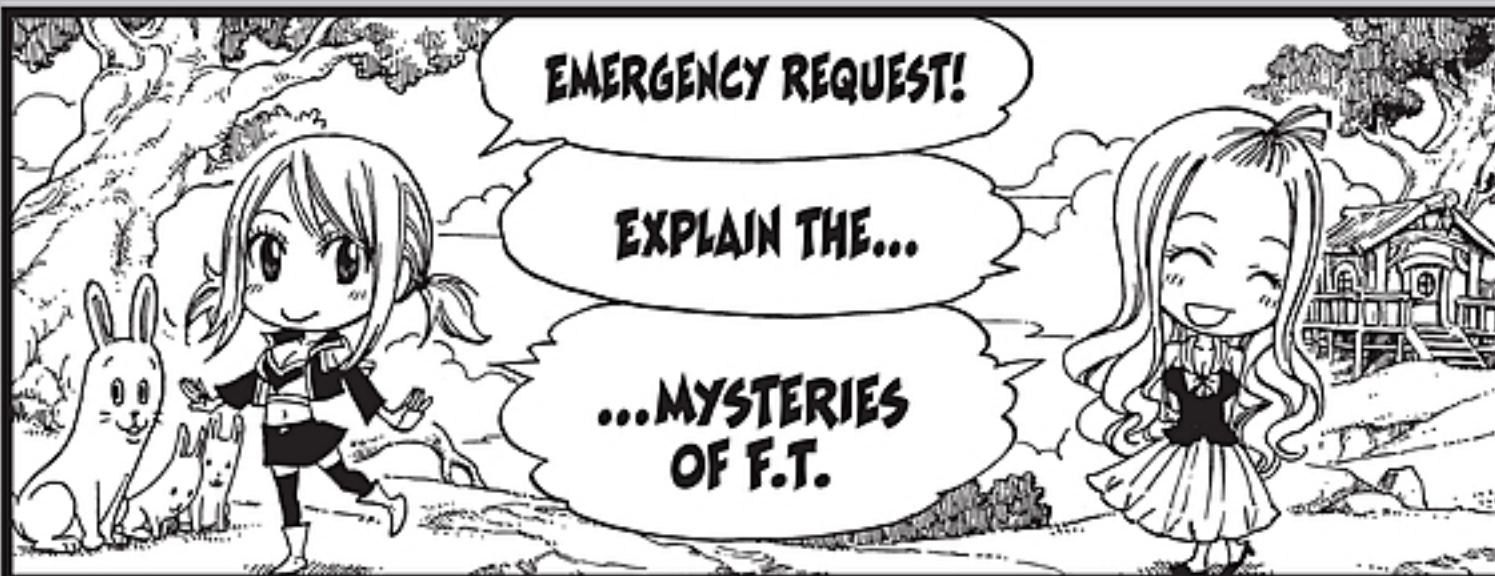


I hope
there *ish* a
next year!

おしまい
THE END



EVERYONE, WE
HOPE TO SEE YOU
RIGHT BACK HERE
NEXT YEAR!



At some open space somewhere...

Lucy: :Hellall!!♥

Mira: : What that, all of a sudden?

Mira: It's "Hello all" shortened. Hellall! ♥

Lucy: That is *never* going to catch on!

Mira: Let's have the first question of this column!

In Pandemonium, Erza defeated 100 monsters, but wouldn't she have won with just 51?



Lucy: We got a *lot* of this one!

Mira: It's a little on the "old" side, but since we got so many of them, we decided to pick it out and answer it.

Lucy: I'll bet nobody even remembers the rules to it.

Mira: There was an actual reason for her actions, from Erza's point of view. And it's a very Erza thing to do.

Lucy: Is that so?

Mira: Remember the order of players in the game.

Lucy: : If I remember right, Erza was first, and the middle guys are a blur, and finally came Cana, I think.

Mira: That's it! That's the point. Sure, if she defeated 51 monsters, she'd win, but afterwards, the rest of the field would have to finish off the other 49.

Lucy: You're right! With everybody going in order and Cana last in line, it'd be very unlikely for Cana to come in second.

Mira: She wouldn't have known that the next game would be "MPF," but she defeated all hundred monsters hoping to give Cana a better chance.

Lucy: That's Erza for you!

Mira: Next question!

I get the feeling there are too many brothers and sisters in this manga.



Continued on the right-hand page.

Continued from the left-hand page.

Lucy:

Mira:

Lucy: : I'd say there's not much we can do about that.

Mira: : True... The longer you go on a manga, the more similar setups start to appear...

Lucy: Your relationship with Elfman was hidden at the very beginning, huh?

Mira: At least from the readers. But we were the first brother-sister combination in the concept.

Lucy: And it's pretty obvious that certain brother-sister relationships were added in after the fact...

Mira: : You're not supposed to say that.

Lucy: I'm a little jealous since it's only in the anime that I get anything close to a brother or sister.

Mira: Actually there are some sibling pairings that have been set up, but still haven't been revealed. But with readers saying, "there are too many brother-sister pairings," the author may flinch at revealing them now.

Lucy: You mean about Yukino?

Mira: I'm sure there are many people who are already aware of that one, but I'm talking about some that haven't been touched on yet.

Lucy: Whoa! Now you've got me : curious!! Who are you talking about?!

Mira: It's a secret. It still may come out in the story, although we don't know for sure.

Lucy: Okay, last question.

How many volumes is FT going to go?

**The previous series, Rave, went 35 volumes.*



Mira: Recently this question has been coming up a lot!

Lucy: Yeah. Since it really seems like it's coming to a big climax, there are a lot of people who think this series is racing toward its final volume.

Mira: To tell the truth, there's been no decision on what volume it will end, but it's still got a long way to go. I'm pretty sure.

Lucy: If you collect the stories of this particular story arc, it started with a theme of "festival."

Mira: But the story has gone on a long time with so many characters!

Lucy: But if you're worried that it's almost over, you can relax.

Mira: : Please stay with us, okay?

Lucy: Wow! We wrapped that up : really nicely!! Sure, we started out with a weird "hello" at the beginning, but we pulled it all together in a pretty package!

Mira: "Weird hello?"

Lucy: You've forgotten already.

Mira: Of course I remember! **Moun-tain-li-on-pon!**

Lucy: : Nope. Not that.

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics
451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

FAIRY TAIL GUILD d'ART

They're always such a close family! I'm happy that people draw pictures like this!



Prefecture, Mayonnaise ♡



Fukuoka Prefecture, Akane Saji

I'm so thankful to the fans who came up with these characters!



Okayama Prefecture, Shiryu

▲ Big brother Thunder is strong and cool, huh? We gotta give him more chances to shine.



Nagasaki Prefecture, Tomoka Sasano

▲ He says this is how Yajima-san looked when he was a working wizard! Is that true?! (laughs)



Yamaguchi Prefecture, Yuririn

▲ Now this is adorable! I must say that Gray looks cute in a cat costume.



Saitama Prefecture, Rysa Takada

▲ Ohh! Natsu together with the Twin Dragons! Very cool!!



Saitama Prefecture, Aysa Sato

▲ The composition and layout are quite professional. Very well done!!



Hyogo Prefecture, Choko

▲ Kamika-san. She doesn't stand out very much, but she is very tall.

By sending in letters or postcards, you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code, and any other information you include to the artist as-is. Please keep that in mind.

REACTION CORNER

One of the great things to have watched during the games was how Chapati coordinated his wigs!



Hyogo Prefecture, Yura Kari



Shimane Prefecture, Mila

▲ Her impish grin is incredibly cute!



Mie Prefecture, Kairi

▲ A great gathering of Celestial Spirits! Ah! Only the girls, huh?



Okayama Prefecture, King

▲ Is he male? Is she female? Fro has a lot of mysteries. But the most basic is: Is this a cat or a frog?



Iwate Prefecture, Mameko

▲ She's a ghost, but the first master shows up quite a lot. And she still has secrets.



Kanagawa Prefecture, Koro Koro



Hokkaido, Shinto Ishikawa

▲ Wendy making a bunch of different faces. So well done!! And for some reason Plue is there too.

FROM HIRO MASHIMA



Recently, I've been trying out a lot of paint programs, but there still isn't any that I'd hold up and say, "This is my ideal paint program!!" While trying to color a drawing, I'm always frustrated that it doesn't have this feature or that feature. The drawing on the cover of this book has three types of coloring, all of them different.

Original Jacket Design: Hisao Ogawa

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 15, Waxwing

A waxwing is a small perching bird, varieties of which can be found in Japan, Asia, Europe, and North America. The Japanese variety is called *renjaku* by the Japanese.



Page 55, Mizuchi

Lyon's attack, Mizuchi, refers to a dragon out of Japanese legends. The early legends regarding Mizuchi have been lost, so it is not known whether it originally referred to a single dragon or all dragons with a close relationship with water, however existing early legends connect them to rivers or the sea.

Page 71, Scree

Scree is the English word for Jura's *gaisui* attack. It refers to the pile of rocky debris that accumulates at the base of cliffs and other steep slopes. It is also known as a talus.



Page 83, Nakagami Armor

Nakagami, also known as Tenichijin or Tenitsujin, is one of the Twelve Generals of Heaven as described by the famous *onmyōji* (astrologer and mystic) Abe no Seimei during the Heian period a thousand years ago. The Twelve Generals refer to constellations, and among the twelve used in Abe no Seimei's astrology, Nakagami was the chief of the twelve god generals.



Page 86, Narumikazuchi

Although the normal word for thunder and lighting in Japanese is *kaminari*, there is another word, *ikazuchi*, which connotes to Japanese speakers lightning directed by a god. Indeed there is a god's name, Takemikazuchi, which uses the term *mikazuchi*, although this translator was not able to find any reference to a specific god named Narumikazuchi. *Naru* means a roar as in a lion's, and *mikazuchi* means thunder and lightning, so the translation is correct. Unfortunately, the English was not able to carry the nuance of god-directed lightning that is in the Japanese.

Page 101, Nakagami Asterism

As mentioned above, Nakagami was taken from the astrology of Abe no Seimei, and those relate to constellations in the night sky. However, technically some "constellations" such as the Big Dipper are not actual official constellations, but pictures that the stars make in the sky. (The stars of the big dipper are only a part of the Ursa Major constellation.) There is a word for the pictures the stars make in the sky, such as the big dipper or the teapot of Sagittarius: They are called "asterisms." The Japanese name for the attack, *seisai*, means "asterism."



Page 125, There and Back Again

The Japanese words used in the title of this chapter are the same words that are found in the official Japanese title for the book, *The Hobbit*.

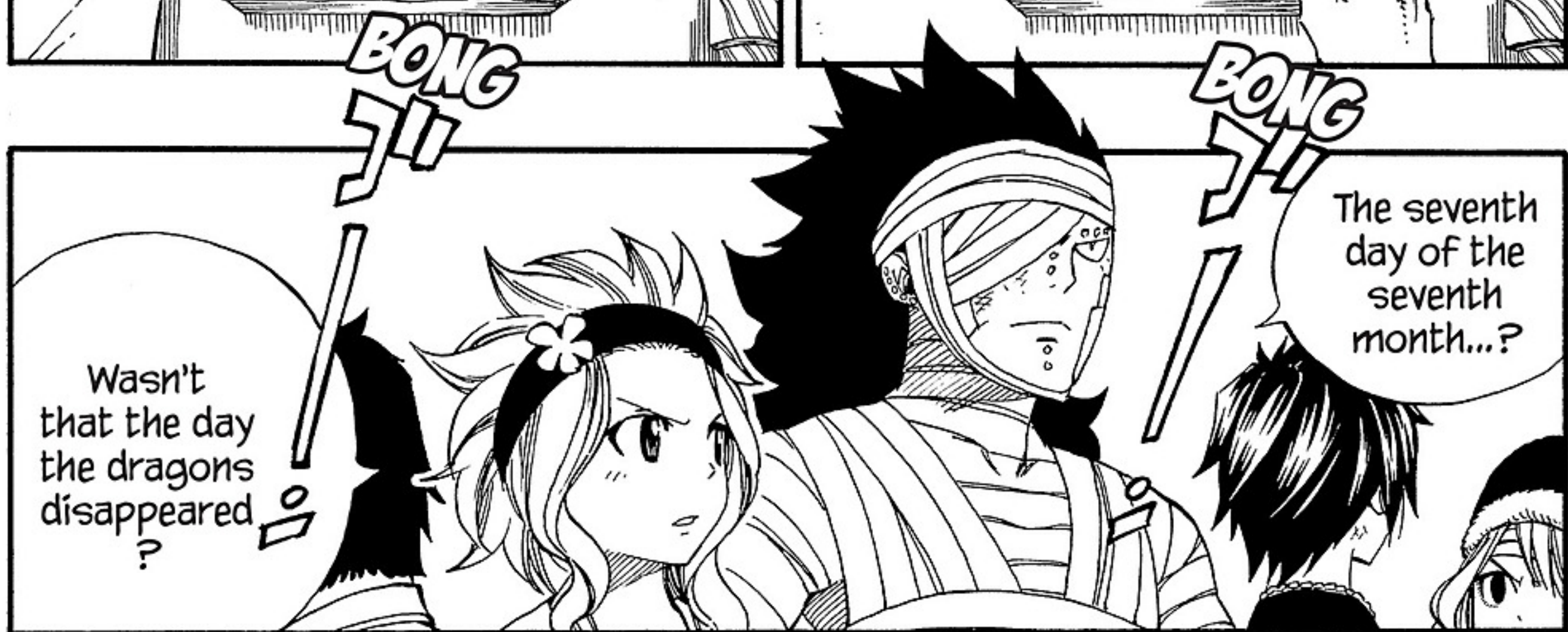
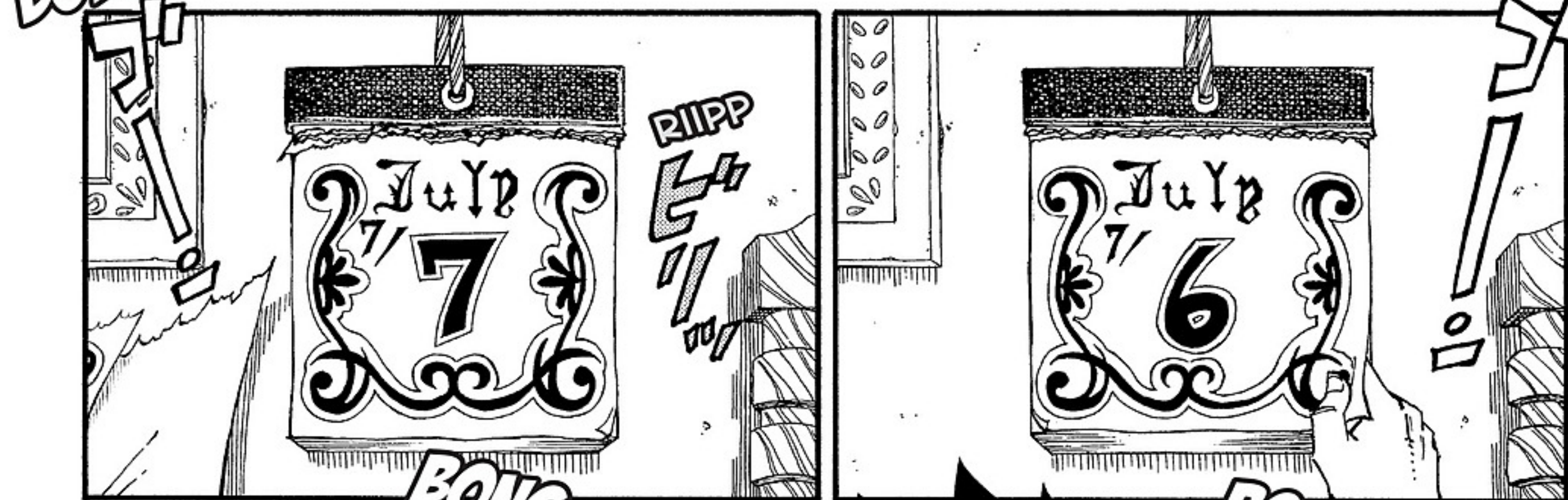
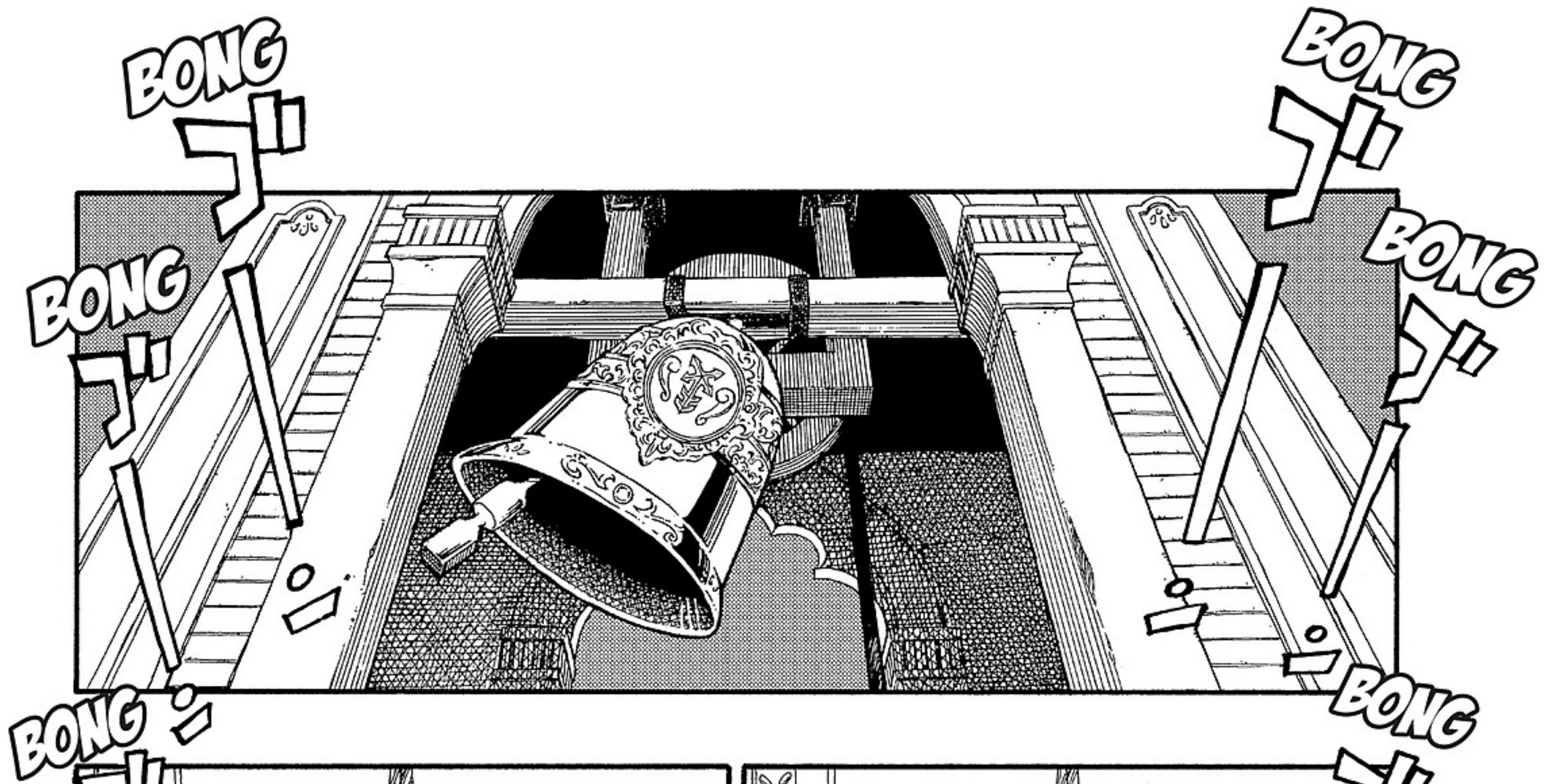
Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again

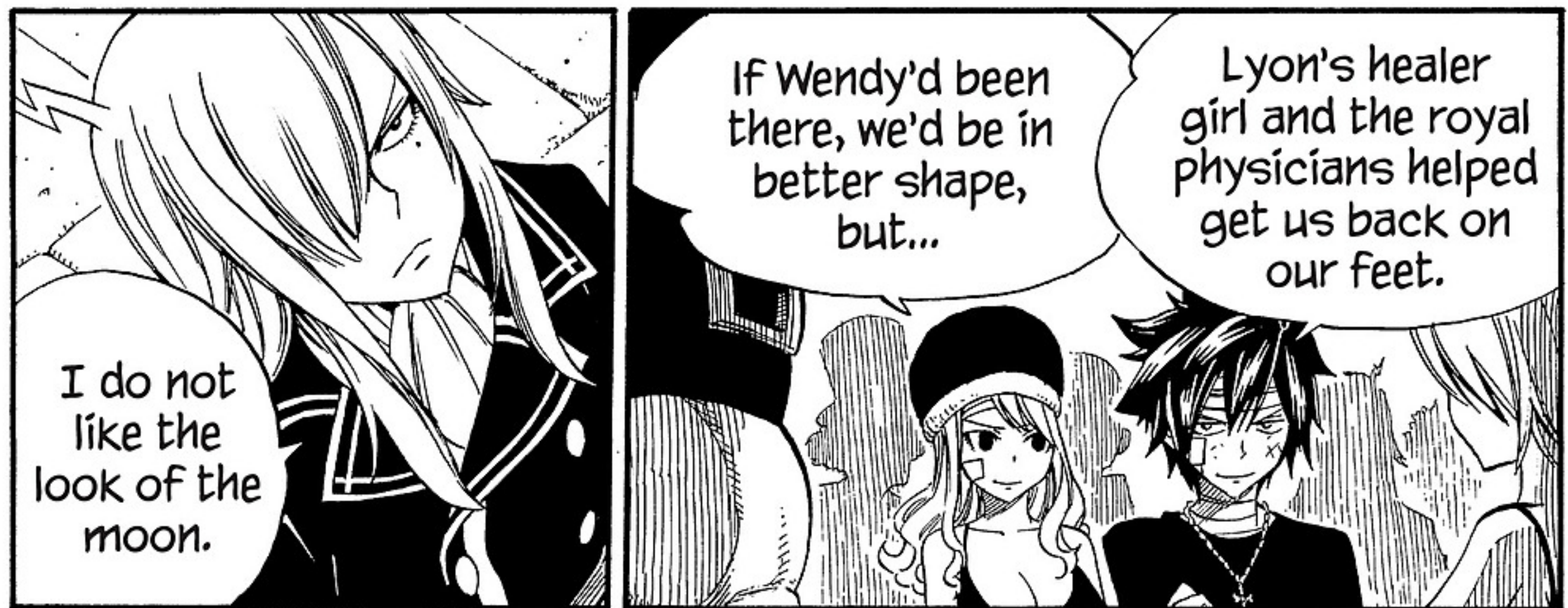


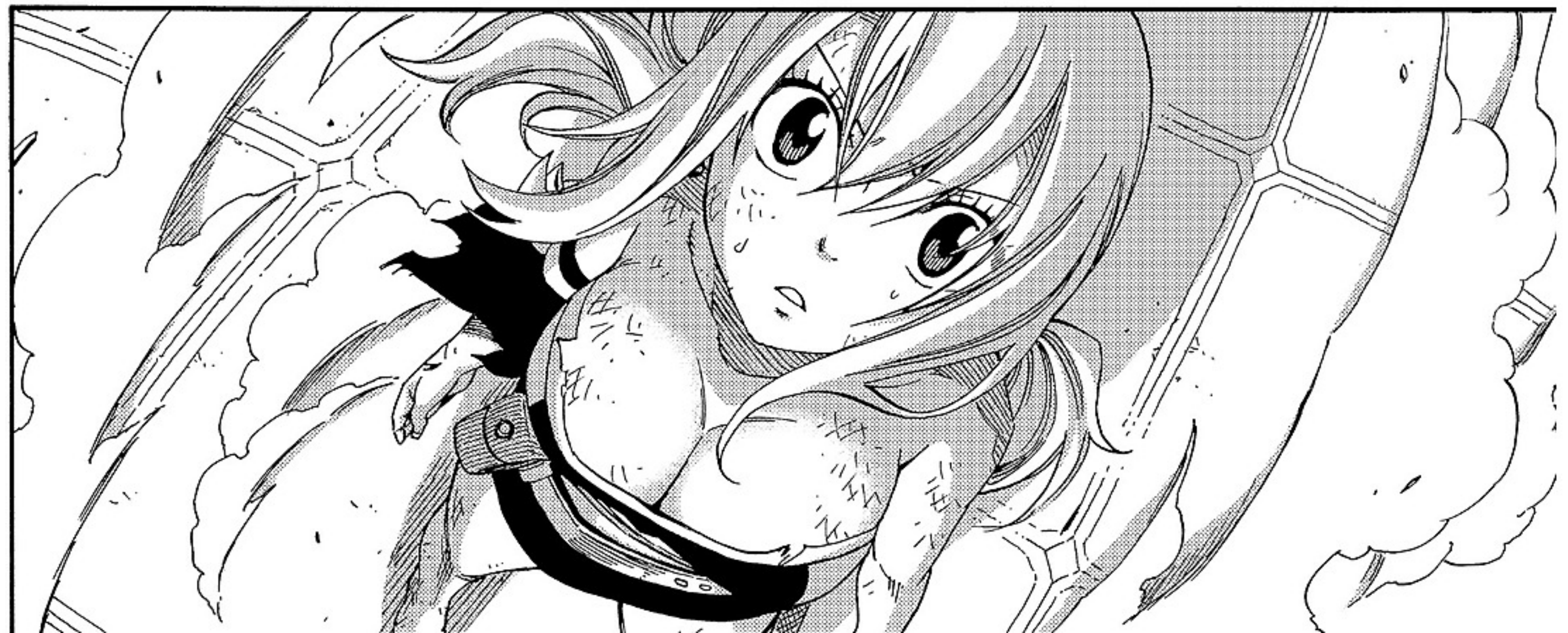
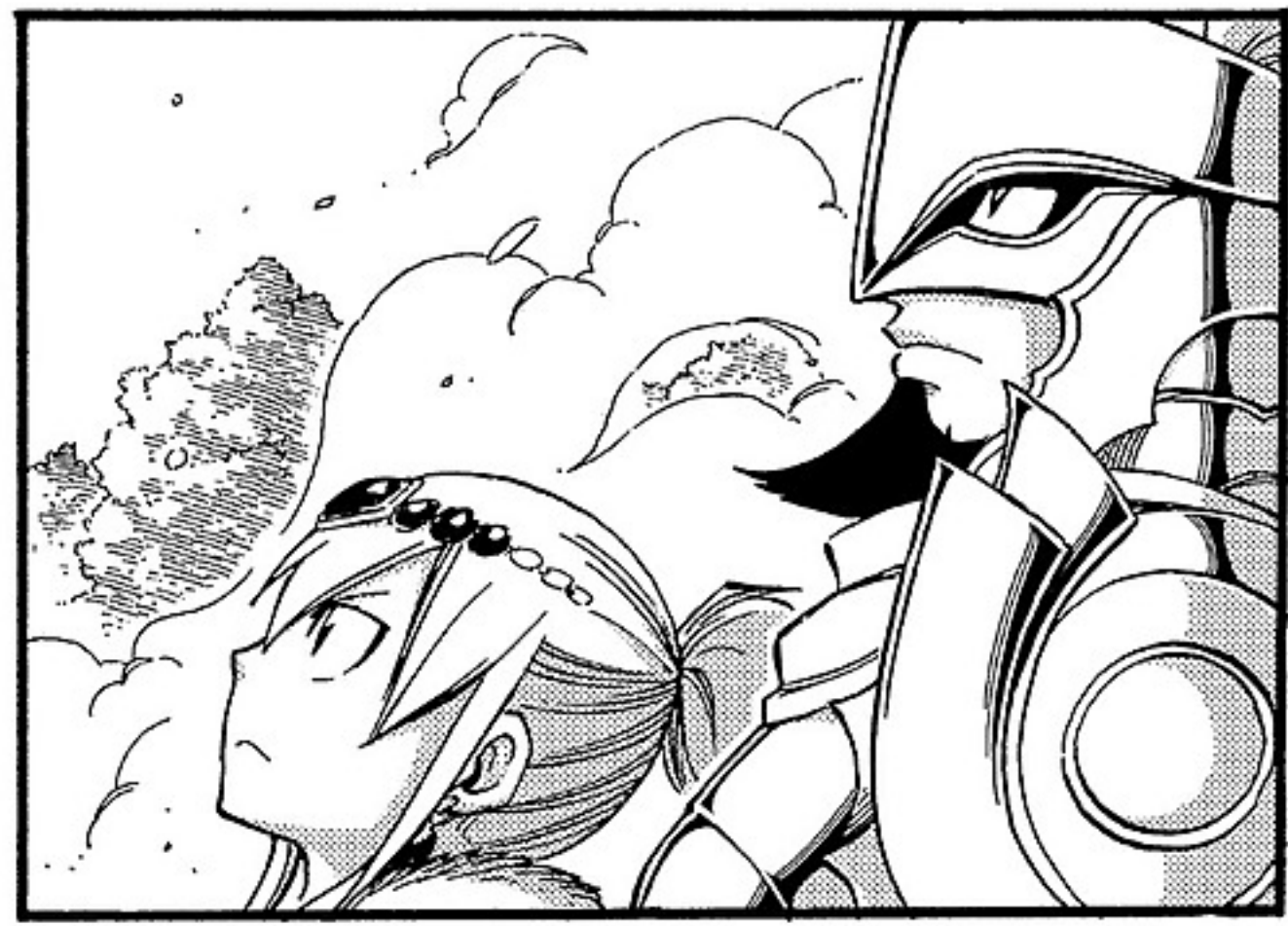
Preview of *Fairy Tail*, volume 39

We're pleased to present you with a preview from *Fairy Tail*, volume 39, now available on digital devices and coming to print in June 2014. See our Web site (www.kodanshacomics.com) for more details!











It's the
Eclipse
door
opening!



What's
that
sound?



But... she will
definitely be
an obstacle!

The door's
open!

You didn't
have to
kill Lucy!



Lucy
wouldn't do
that!!!



She is fated
to close the
door!



There's no
way she'd
ever hurt our
future!!!!



Be
gone.



**RAIEN-RYŪ
MODE*!!!!**

100%

*Thunder-Fire Dragon Mode

WHOOM

!!

Fairy Tail volume 38 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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Lettering: AndWorld Design
Editing: Ben Applegate

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